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# THE TIMES



30P

No. 65,622

WEDNESDAY JULY 3 1996

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bid for  
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of 2006

## THE TIMES GREAT SUMMER OF SPORT

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Mackay seeks to impose cash limits

## Test for merit in shake-up of legal aid

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT



REFORMS to stop millions of pounds of legal aid going on trivial cases were announced yesterday in the biggest shake-up of the scheme since it was set up in 1949.

Lord Mackay of Clashfern hopes to introduce legislation this autumn to impose cash limits on the £1.4 billion scheme. The Bill would also bring in a merit test, so that only the most deserving cases would be funded on taxpayers' money, and a new principle by which everyone would have to pay something towards the cost of their case. They would also be liable for their opponent's costs if they lost.

The changes would create an NHS-style internal market, with law firms, advice bureaux and others awarded block contracts by the Legal Aid Board to provide services. That is likely to lure insurance companies into the market with schemes mimicking public and private funds to back legal actions.

The Lord Chancellor said yesterday that the present system was delivering "less and less, pound for pound, to an ever smaller section of society." The public law legal aid is "wasteful" in supporting too many undeserving cases; as over-priced, with taxpayers on moderate incomes — who would not qualify for legal aid if they sought it — paying what appears to them to be huge lawyers' fees.

But the plans brought criticism from lawyers and consumer groups, who claimed that poor people would be hit hardest. The Law Society said that litigants would face a lifetime of debt if they lost. They would be frightened out of seeking legal aid and unable to enforce or defend their rights.

Both the society and the Bar said that plans for regional cash limits would create a new layer of bureaucracy. David Penry-Davey, QC, the Bar chairman, said the changes would be a "victory for bureaucracy, waste and injustice". They would restrict

wealthy applicants. Legislation is needed for the new merits test and the rules to make people contribute towards their legal aid fees, beyond the end of the case. But these could be wrapped up "quite neatly" in a Bill, he said.

The measures are part of a wider reform programme to extend access to justice for those outside legal aid by cutting the cost of litigation, and officials hope to wrap the reforms into one Bill.

The White Paper published yesterday acknowledged the controversy the proposals would cause, saying: "Balancing interests and policy objectives is never easy and is rarely popular because few people get everything they want."

The document goes on to make clear that people should not be asked to pay more than they can afford, although the Lord Chancellor said: "A small charge at the outset may well be a good way of ensuring that those who wish to take cases are really committed to them. The taxpayer is asked to assist in other people's cases, and if those people are not committed to their case to the extent of a very small limited contribution in the first place, it seems very hard to expect the taxpayer to be so."

But the National Consumer Council accused the Government of planning unsubstancial and dangerous changes on the wrong assumption that frivolous people were queuing up to bring trivial cases. The chairman, David Hatch, said:

"Very poor and desperate people will be priced out of the justice system if they know they may be forced to pay an application fee and contribute to costs if they lose."

Yesterday Lord Mackay made clear that he wanted to move swiftly on the "radical" proposals, many of which do not need legislation and are already being implemented.

Advice agencies are to be brought under the scheme immediately, so that they can be awarded contracts in the same way as franchised law firms are now.

He also intends to open consultations with the legal profession about standard rates for civil cases, "as a prelude to moving to bulk contracts with fixed prices", and a special unit is being set up to investigate "apparently

Costs of justice, page 6  
Leading article, page 21



Carole Burwash: collapsed and died after being given ten times the prescribed dose

## Woman died after doctor misread handwriting

By RUSSELL JENKINS

A PATIENT at a prestigious private hospital died after a doctor misread a colleague's handwriting and gave her ten times the required dose of painkillers, an inquest was told yesterday.

Carole Burwash, 53, had

been admitted to the Princess Grace Hospital in Marylebone, west London, for a routine hysterectomy, but she

collapsed and died after being given 30mg of diamorphine [pharmaceutical heroin] instead of the 3mg designed to help her sleep comfortably.

Dr Paul Knapman, the

Westminster coroner, yesterday criticised the two doctors involved, but said the errors at the hospital fell short of criminal. He recorded a verdict of accidental death, adding:

"That does not mean everybody is blameless. It has no bearing on compensation."

Dr Knapman said that the

PATIENT APPROVED		DOCTOR'S HANDWRITING	
30 mg	3 mg	30 mg	3 mg
10 mg	1 mg	10 mg	1 mg
5 mg	0.5 mg	5 mg	0.5 mg
2 mg	0.2 mg	2 mg	0.2 mg

The dosage instruction, left, was read as 30mg

hospital had shown shortcomings and insufficient attention to detail: a mistake had been made "with absolutely devastating fatal consequences". He also criticised the back-up procedures when it came to resuscitation.

Mrs Burwash's husband Brian, who hoped for a verdict of unlawful killing, expressed bitter disappointment that the police had stopped their investigation.

The figure on the prescription, written by the consultant

continued on page 4, col 6

## Visa trouble sends Blair's guru home

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

IMMIGRATION rules have deprived Tony Blair of his religious mentor. The Rev Peter Thomson, 60, was invited by Mr Blair to come to England and advise him in the run-up to the next election.

But only weeks after arriving in London — where he hoped to take the job of vicar of St Lukes, Holloway — the spiritual "guru" has been forced to return to Australia to

join the queue for visa entitling him to work instead of coming as a tourist.

Mr Blair's aides shrugged off the hitch, saying it would not affect the Labour leader, who would maintain telephone contact with Mr Thomson until he returns to Britain, probably before month's end.

Mr Thomson's wife Helen, who remained at St Luke's while her husband flew home, said: "I think he is just in a queue like everyone else. There is no problem to my knowledge. I have my fingers crossed that he will be back in two weeks."

Mr Thomson's departure coincides with attacks on Mr Blair from Roman Catholics for taking Holy Communion at his wife's Catholic church in Highbury, north London, where his son Euan is an altar server.

As an Anglican, the Labour leader is not permitted by Catholic rules to receive communion.

## English pupils plummet in international maths league

By JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

ENGLISH teenagers are plummeting in the international league in mathematics, according to an authoritative study of standards in 41 countries to be published later this year. But in science they are the brains of Europe.

The survey of 13-year-olds will confirm experts' worst fears of underperformance in mathematics. Ministers and Opposition politicians have called for action after a series of gloomy reports suggesting that many children never master basic numeracy.

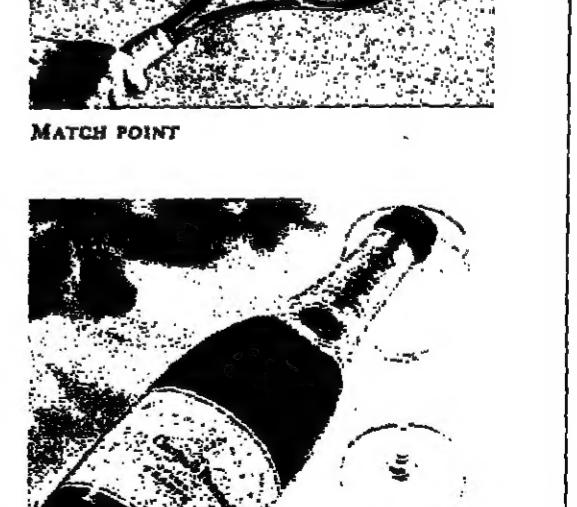
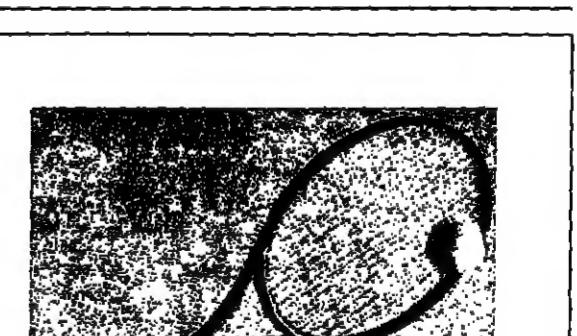
English results were 3 per cent above the world average when the International Mathematics and Science Study was last undertaken, in 1990. By last year the country's 13-year-olds were almost 3 per cent below the average and last of a group of industrial nations in algebra and number work.

A smaller-scale study to be published next week by Ofsted, the school inspection agency, will raise similar concerns. But academics have been waiting for the main survey which bases its findings on thousands of test results and is seen as the main benchmark of achievement.

Teachers will draw some consolation from the science results, which place England sixth out of 27 countries. But the mathematics placing of nineteenth out of 27 will raise further questions about the way the subject is taught.

The 13,800 English teenagers answered 53 per cent of maths questions correctly, compared with 79 per cent in top-of-the-table Singapore. The average was 55 per cent, with Ireland, Belgium, Switzerland and France all reaching higher standards.

In science, the position was still further as they get older.



WHEELBARROW TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS	24 June - 7 July
ROUND THE ISLAND RACE, ISLE OF WIGHT	29 June
VEUVE CLICQUOT GOLD CUP POLO, COOMBE PARK	20 June - 21 July
HORLEY ROYAL REGATTA	3-7 July
SAD CANOEIST TEAM MATCH V INDIA, TRENT BRIDGE	4-9 July
HAMPTON COURT PALACE INTERNATIONAL FLOWER SHOW	9-14 July
BENSON & HEDGES CUP FINAL, LORD'S	15 July
NETHER GRANGE PARK, SILVERSTONE	14 July
GLOUCESTERShire GOODWOOD	30 July - 3 August
SILK CUT DERBY, RUGBY	15-18 August

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## Tories turn to satire in battle over manifesto

By JILL SHERMAN AND PHILIP WEBSTER

THE pre-election banal intensified yesterday after it emerged that Paul Hamlyn, the publisher, is to finance most of Labour's £1 million advertising campaign to sell its new manifesto. At the same time the Tories, combining invective and sarcasm, released a "spoof" version of Tony Blair's plans.

As Mr Blair won the backing of Labour's national executive for his 36-page "Road to the Manifesto" programme, with only two leftwingers voting against, party officials revealed plans to launch the biggest ever campaign outside a general election to put across Labour's plans to voters.

Mr Hamlyn, a multi-millionaire and longstanding Labour supporter, will finance more than half the campaign which includes delivering leaflets with a summary at every household.

Deploying parody as a political weapon, the party published a 24,000-word document called *The Road to Ruin: New Labour's Real Manifesto* in which it began

its new campaign to highlight the dangers of New Labour.

On each left-hand page are sourced quotations from leading Labour figures, and on the right a satirical interpretation of what the words meant.

The paper suggests, for example, that the real Labour manifesto should contain pledges to create new communities "so that everybody is in bed by 10pm and not out shopping as they are under the Tories" and a new Europe in which "Britain is really nice and gets its way by agreeing to everyone else's suggestions".

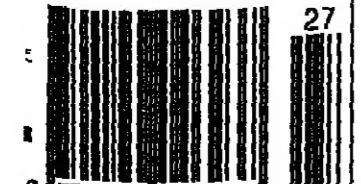
The use of "negative campaigning" brought predictable complaints from Labour last night. But the launch hit an early snag when the Conservatives were accused of making a sick joke at the expense of David Blunkett, Labour's education spokesman, who is blind. It highlighted a pledge from him that "all check-ups

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Thomson: phone contact

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## Dog-faced puffers and clownfish have their day

The case list for parliamentary business yesterday included dog-faced puffers, tornado clownfish and red-bellied piranhas. And that was before the MPs attending Prime Minister's Questions came in.

The clownfish and their friends were introduced during questions to environment ministers ...

Mr Tony Banks (Newham NW): "What applications under the Cities regulations have been made in respect of an aquarium in County Hall, London SE1?"

Mr James Clappison (the Minister): "None."

Madam Speaker: "Good answer."

Mr Banks: "You may say so, but in fact it's an unhelpful answer."

Madam Speaker: "At least a straightforward one."

... And off went Banks into his prepared rant. Before we proceed further, there are three things you need to know about Mr Banks. First, he was once a Labour councillor on the now-defunct Greater London Council and mourns its demise. Second, he is a great animal-lover and campaigns for badgers, foxes and whales.

Third, Mr Banks is a total

**MATTHEW PARRIS**  
POLITICAL SKETCH

... how shall we put this? I have scoured my thesaurus for words which might fit. The relevant sections suggest: *ape*, *baboon*, *bel esprit*, *buffoon*, *clown*, *gaillard*, *harlequin*, *jackanapes*, *jackson*, *jack-pudding*, *jest*, *joker*, *merryandrew*, *monkey*, *pantaloons*, *pickleherring*, *scallywag*, *scaramouche*, *tomfool*, *wag*, and *wit*. Also *half-wit*. A Scottish colleague adds *barnpot*, *ejit*, *heidbanger*.

and *numpot*. Rather than settle on any particular word perhaps you will scan the whole list: from it, a picture of Mr Banks's contribution to modern British history may take shape.

Yesterday he told ministers that the former County Hall's new Japanese owners were planning an aquarium. That worried Mr Banks. Exotic fish would be kept there. And since (he said) the Japanese are

killing minke whales in the Antarctic to eat, under the guise of science, might their aquatic guests at County Hall face the same fate?

Readers need not trouble themselves wrestling with Mr Banks's argument. An MP's aim is not to persuade, but to score.

*Whales 1: Japs 0. Greater London Council 1: Tory sell-off 0.*

In was at this point when

the minister, Mr Clappison, mentioned the exotic fish: dog-faced puffers, tornado clownfish and red-bellied piranhas. He left it to a junior shark, Bernard Jenkin (C. Colchester N), to remark that

Tory benches behind him. The House was in a boisterous mood. Tony Blair, vulnerable on devolution, cannily bogged PM's Questions down in a wrangle about something nobody could understand — Defence Ministry homes. John Major knocked Blair about a bit, but unmemorably, and everyone had a good yell.

Miss Boothroyd, who is coming near the end of her tether, suggested MPs stop their jeering and cheering. So next week we shall have calm. And Tony Banks will stop playing the fool. And pigs will

### NEWS IN BRIEF

## Voluntary identity cards win backing

A voluntary identity card based on the new driving licence and including details of nationality should be introduced in the United Kingdom. A Commons committee recommended yesterday.

The card could be used as a driving licence and identity document and as an EU travel pass. But the Home Affairs select committee report opposed a compulsory national scheme after opposition from police and commercial organisations. Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, is expected to announce plans for a voluntary card next month.

### Becket boost

The campaign to save the historic Thomas Becket casket for the nation has been boosted by a donation of £25,000 from patrons of the Victoria & Albert Museum. The "Friends" of the museum decided to offer every last penny of their 1996 budget to try to save the reliquary casket, which will be sold by auction at Sotheby's tomorrow. Letters, page 21

### Farmers lose out

Rural crime cost farmers £78.7 million last year, up 9.5 per cent on 1994, according to a report released by the NFU Mutual insurance company at the Royal Show at Stoneleigh in Warwickshire. About £63.9 million was accounted for by the theft of cars, tractors, motorcycles and other vehicles, particularly from farms near ports and the Channel Tunnel.

### Ballast ban

Efforts to prevent ships discharging ballast water in harbours and around the coast were launched yesterday at the International Maritime Organisation meeting in London. The move, which is backed by Britain, comes after rising concern that the water spreads disease and foreign organisms that threaten native fish stocks and wildlife.

### Caravan view

Owners of trailer caravans will not now have to buy a second television licence for their holiday home, the Government announced in the Commons. The Caravan Club had protested that members had to buy an additional licence even if they only used their mobile home for a few weeks a year. Owners of other, fixed, second homes will still need an extra licence.

### Clean break

Makers of ITV's *Emmerdale* are planning to move filming of the soap from Esholt, West Yorkshire, to a purpose-built set within the grounds of Harewood House, near Leeds. Yorkshire TV, which makes the programme, believes that its plans to extend the show to three times a week will put too much pressure on the tiny village.

### Wider remit

The Heritage Select Committee proposed that the powers of the Department for National Heritage be expanded to include the information superhighway, the gaming and betting industry and the BBC World Service. It also suggested that the department's name be changed to the Department of Communications and Heritage.

### Eurovision hosts

Ireland's state-backed RTE broadcasting network has confirmed it will stage the Eurovision Song Contest next year. It won the right to host the TV extravaganza when the Irish entry won the competition for a record fourth time in five years in May. RTE staged the show from 1993 to 1995. No venue has yet been selected.

### CORRECTION

Mr George Lindsay of Co Antrim, a survivor of the Somme, is contrary to a report (July 1), alive and well and aged 101.

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Baroness Park's amendment could delay the sale

## Government hint of concession on Forces home sale

BY MICHAEL EVANS AND JAMES LANDALE

THE Government sent out signals last night that it was preparing to give ground to avert defeat over the £1.6 billion sale of Armed Forces married quarters. Ministers and senior officials indicated that the plans had not been finalised and that changes could be made.

The moves came as a senior Conservative peer said that she was prepared to drop intense lobbying by ministers to delay the sale. Baroness Park of Monmouth said that she would go ahead with a Lords amendment to the Housing Bill next week which would postpone the self-sale.

Tony Blair pressed John Major on the issue last night, and Labour announced that it intended to bring the matter to a vote in the Commons next week if Baroness Park's amendment fails.

Michael Portillo met backbench MPs last night to discuss the policy. Earlier Mr Major was forced into a robust defence of the Defence Secretary in the Commons as Mr Blair accused him of selling the homes to pay for pre-election tax cuts.

Mr Major was asked whether there was a "get Portillo" campaign by some members of the Tory party who wished to diminish his leadership chances. The Prime Minister replied: "Mr Portillo, like me, is determined to

ensure the best possible accommodation for servicemen and to ensure that an extra £100 million is available to be spent upon them."

Ministers say the planned self-sale later this year of 60,000 homes will not only fill Treasury coffers but will provide £100 million to upgrade the homes. There were indications last night, however, that ministers could agree to provide further cash as a compromise to defuse the dispute.

Senior government officials made clear that the precise details of the sale would be finalised over the next four weeks, before a decision is reached on which of four commercial bids to accept.

Baroness Park, a former MI6 officer, has won the support of Lord Chalfont, a former Labour Defence Minister, and other senior peers.

The pending revolt in the Lords was causing such alarm in Downing Street yesterday that she and Lord Chalfont were invited to talk to the committee about the incident.

Police sources said it was too early to say whether the call was a prank or a serious threat to Mrs Shorthall. But a source made clear that detectives would take no chances in the light of the murder of Ms Guerin.

□ A convicted Dublin criminal won a court action yesterday banning publication of the last article written by Veronica Guerin which claimed he was a drug dealer.

John Traynor, 48, of south Dublin, told the High Court in an affidavit on Monday that an article in the Sunday Independent would put his life at risk from vigilantes and the IRA.

Letters, page 21

## Tory party turns to satire

Continued from page 1  
would be free" and then said what he really meant to say was: "We think the provision of free eye tests for pensionaires is a health priority. There were protests and Mr Blunkett called for a withdrawal. Let me tell them that there is not a millionaire in the world who would not give all their millions to ensure that they have the benefit of sight," he said.

Michael Heseltine and Brian Mawhinney, the party chairman, unveiled the document largely the brainchild of Danny Finkelstein, head of Tory research, Tim Collins, former communications director, and Thomas O'Malley, central office's chief Labour watcher.

Party sources said they had accepted it ran the risk of

criticism from journalists,

who appeared unimpressed at yesterday's launch, but that it would do well with MPs and activists.

It was felt to be a dramatic way of drawing attention to Labour's new plans.

Mr Mawhinney warned a

private meeting of Tory back-benchers last night to expect the worst.

He said that MPs

should be braced for a poor

media response to the launch

of the advertising campaign

because the press had "no sense of humour".

Mr Mawhinney and Mr

Heseltine adopted the role of

comedy duo at the launch,

taking it in turn to read out

lines from *Road to Ruin*.

But the difficulties within

the Cabinet of coming to terms

with the new strategy of

accepting that Mr Blair has

changed his party and turning

sights on New Labour was

apparent.

Mr Mawhinney said: "The

issue is not whether Labour

has changed.

It is now clear

that it has."

Mr Heseltine said: "New

Labour! You can change the

name. But you can't change

the instincts.

The old policies

are in many ways there under the new policies."

Both agreed, however, that

Labour was unfit to govern

and would raise taxes, destroy jobs and put the unions back in control.

The five key pledges to be

enshrined in the plastic "credit cards" are: a commitment to

reduce class sizes;

to guarantee every young person a job or training;

to transfer money

from NHS bureaucracy to

patient care;

to combat youth

crime;

and to have a strong

economy which is not based

on tax, spend or borrowing.

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THE TIMES WEDNESDAY JULY 3 1996

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IN BRIEF  
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Beauty dies battling the beasts that torment one of America's most famous clans

## Family 'curse' claims another Hemingway

FROM QUENTIN LETTS  
IN NEW YORK

HOLLYWOOD spoke yesterday of a "curse of the Hemingways" after the shocking death of the beautiful Margot Hemingway. Miss Hemingway, 41, was found dead in her flat almost 35 years to the day after her grandfather, Ernest, his mind awash with drink and wasted words, killed himself in Ketchum, Idaho.

Friends discovered the body of the former model and actress after going to her new apartment in Santa Monica on Monday to help her to finish moving in. When no one answered the door they summoned a workman who climbed on to a balcony to look inside. He found a crumpled body, dressed but lifeless. She had been dead at least two days, police said, and was identified by dental records.

It was a lonely death for the woman who was once the best-paid model in the world, with a contract worth more than \$1 million to promote a perfume. She had stepped off a bus in New York in 1974 and instantly been accepted as an adornment to the social scene that revolved around nightclubs such as Studio 54. Stars such as Liza Minnelli accepted her as one of their own. "Baby," the Hollywood producer Dino De Laurentiis told her, "I'll make you a star."

Her death was not being treated as suspicious. "There were no signs of forced entry, no signs of foul play, no note to indicate suicide," Gary Gallinot, of the police department, said. "No guns or illegal substances were found in the apartment."

Hemingway followers, however, talked of the demons that seem to haunt the family, and noted the way that the oft-tall Margot, like her grandfather, turned to drink in moments of despair. In her heyday, she admitted, she had often been "living the life of Ernest." She drank to "loosen up" on the dance floor, to quell her nerves when mixing with film stars. "In my grandfather's time it was a virtue to be able to drink a lot and never show it," she said. "Like him, I wanted to live my



Miss Hemingway's body was found, above, almost 35 years to the day after her grandfather's death

MONDAY JULY 3 1961

### MR. HEMINGWAY DIES IN GUN ACCIDENT

SHOT IN HEAD

From Our Own Correspondent

Mr. Ernest Hemingway, the distinguished American writer, died yesterday from a bullet wound in the head. A gun accident, caused by his family said that he accidentally killed himself at 7.30 this morning at his home in Ketchum, Idaho, while cleaning his gun. The coroner of Madison County, Mr. Ray McGehee, confirmed that Mr. Hemingway had shot himself.



stick was a turkey and she was doomed to a career of B movies.

There were also family pressures, not least the knowledge that four relatives died at their own hands and that alcoholism ran in the clan. Her cousin, Lorian Hemingway, put the family addiction rate at "more than 75 per cent".

She was born Margot but changed her Christian name at 17 to Margaux when she learned that on the night she

was conceived her parents had been drinking Chateau Margaux, her grandfather's favourite wine. When she was in the Betty Ford Clinic she pondered the sense of having a name with such richly alcoholic echoes, and later switched back to Margot.

After the clinic, Miss Hemingway appeared to rally, and found the confidence to pose nude for *Playboy*. She had recently started narrating a television nature series. She endured diabetes, bulimia and divorce, but appeared to be going in the right direction until the middle of June. Then, according to her agent, David Mirisch, she for some reason stopped being "the Margot Hemingway that we all know as far as having that 'up' personality".

After moving into the apartment, Miss Hemingway had encountered problems with her landlady and, according to neighbours, had slipped into despair. One local resident, Peter Osterlund, reported the last sighting of Miss Hemingway: Saturday, about 7pm, when in the old days she would have been calling for a third cocktail but was now simply looking "haggard and sad" as she walked down the main street.

Another neighbour, Mark Stern, said that he had found her in her car at midnight last week. "She was shaking, she was upset," he said. "There was apparently making so much noise next door that she could not sleep."

Miss Hemingway, who grew up in the family compound in Ketchum, was one of three daughters born to Ernest's son Jack. "There was my big sister Muffet and my little sister Mariel," she said. "I was a middle kid. They forgot about me."

But now they are remem-

bering, and as the blanketed stretcher was wheeled out of her flat towards the coroner's van for the trip to the morgue, bystanders clapped their hands and watched in sorrow.

A pathologist's report will be prepared. Mr. Mirisch speculated that the cause of death was an epileptic fit.

Her sister Mariel seems to

have escaped the family curse.



A perfume contract made Margot Hemingway the world's highest-paid model

Her finest hour came when she received an Oscar nomination at 17 for the Woody Allen film *Manhattan*.

For Margot, the sibling success must have been hard to bear. Mr. Mirisch said:

"Even though Margot was not the greatest actress in the world she had personality,

and people wanted to be with

her." He added that the television nature programme she had recently started was intended to be a route to new showbusiness success.

"We really felt this series was going to bring her back."

Obituary, page 23

**My son admitted murder, says father**

By KATE ALDERSON

THE father of the man accused of murdering Sophie Hook told a hushed court room yesterday that his son confessed to him after he had been arrested that he had killed the seven-year-old girl.

Gerald Hughes, a building contractor from Colwyn Bay, Clwyd, said he was in turmoil after his son, Howard, told him: "Yes Dad, I did it."

Clutching the witness stand, Mr Hughes told the jury at Chester Crown Court that he had known Sophie's family for many years. He said he visited his son in Llandudno police station four days after Sophie had been murdered. Hughes, 31, denies murdering and raping Sophie on July 30 last year after she was snatched from a tent in her uncle's garden in Llandudno, north Wales.

Hughes's father, grey-haired and wearing a grey suit, said he asked his son: "I want to know whether or not you committed this offence."

He told the jury that his son asked him to go to the corner of the room where they could not be seen or heard. "And then he said, 'Yes Dad, I did it' and he related how it had come about without any further prompting."

He told the court his son said he had seen some children playing in a tent in a garden on the afternoon of July 29. He had asked one of the girls to come with him but she refused, the court heard.

He told his father that he returned to the garden at about 2am the next morning, the court heard, and this time persuaded the little girl to go with him. "I asked him if he had sexually assaulted her and he said 'Yes Dad, I did,'" Mr Hughes said.

Mr Hughes told the court he asked his son where he had disposed of Sophie's nightdress. With the help of a map, Hughes told his father the whereabouts of the clothes and the route he had cycled home.

Earlier yesterday, the court heard from a girl who claimed she was approached by Hughes only hours before he is alleged to have murdered Sophie Hook, but ran to her grandmother's home where she had been spending the afternoon. The trial continues.

## Jury shown film of aircraft hitting and killing soldier

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A VIDEO film showing the moment a soldier was killed in an alleged game of "chicken" as he was buzzed by a low-flying RAF Hercules was shown to a jury yesterday. The film captured the transport aircraft in a low pass over South Cerney military airfield near Cirencester, Gloucestershire, in August 1994.

Private Christopher Game, 22, from Poole, Dorset, who was standing on his recovery truck roof, died from multiple injuries when struck by the rear ramp of the aircraft, which was flying at 140mph, 12ft to 14ft from the ground.

The four-minute video, captured on film shot from inside the Hercules, was the last of 21 shown during prosecution evidence at the Bristol Crown Court trial of the Hercules pilot, Squadron Leader Michael Morison, 42. He denies the charge.

## Police stalk toddler and his toy gun

BY CAROL MUGGLETON

POLICE, who surrounded a car after being told that there was a gunman inside, found a three-year-old boy playing with a toy pistol. Scott Schillermore, had been given the plastic cap-gun to keep him quiet while his mother did her shopping but passers-by in Portsmouth mistook the child for an armed kidnapper.

Officers followed the boy, his mother, Marie, 28, and her parents as they made the mile-long journey to their home. When their car stopped it was surrounded by officers in flak jackets. The occupants were ordered to stand with their hands on the car roof while they were searched.

Sergeant Colin Michie of Portsmouth police control room said officers had responded to two calls saying a "male" had been seen waving a gun.

The trial continues.

## P.D. James leads scathing attack on Birt's World Service reforms

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN  
MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

P.D. JAMES, the best-selling novelist, mounted a scathing attack on John Birt, Director-General of the BBC and his chairman Sir Christopher Bland yesterday over their plans to reorganise and break up the World Service.

Baroness James, a former BBC governor, said that Mr Birt and Sir Christopher had displayed "extraordinary arrogance" in announcing a radical shake-up of the World Service without consulting its staff.

Speaking at a lobby of Parliament organised to mobilise public and political opposition to the reforms, she said she did not know whether to be more appalled by the reorganisation itself or by the way it was announced.

"Arrogance, extraordinary arrogance, I would like to say, to both John Birt and to the new Chairman — they do not own the BBC. The World



P.D. James was highly critical of the reforms and how they have been introduced by John Birt

Service is not a private company. It belongs to this country and ... the people the world."

Lady James said that millions of people throughout the world depended on the World Service adding that "it would be absolutely scandalous if two men are allowed to destroy it". She was joined at the

"offended and insulted" by the BBC's plans. The World Service, like other cherished British institutions, was being "smashed" for economic reasons with no real understanding of its aims.

"Given that the BBC charter calls for public consultation before any major changes are made ... how do the governors explain the secrecy surrounding the changes announced by the Director General and the lack of consultation within the Corporation let alone with any member of the public?"

Under Mr Birt's plans, which were kept secret until a hastily called press conference last month, the World Service will have to buy in its English language news reports and entertainment programming from two centralised BBC News and BBC Production divisions, which will also be serving the BBC's domestic departments. However, it will retain direct control for its vernacular services.

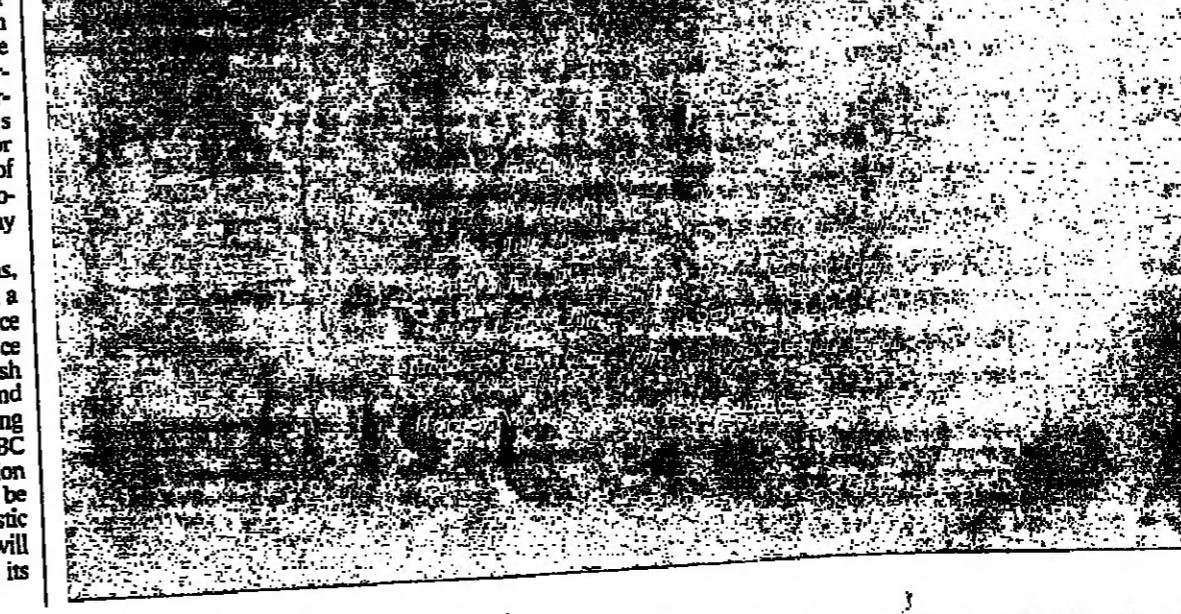
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## Hospital blamed in report on overdose death

■ A professor of obstetric anaesthesia who investigated a patient's death from a drug overdose found seven errors made by the hospital, Dominic Kennedy reports

THE private hospital where a woman patient was injected with ten times the correct dose of painkiller was partly to blame for her death, an expert medical report says.

Princess Grace Hospital in London is one of the most renowned in Britain and charges £416 a day. Its patients have included the footballer Paul Gascoigne and the actress Wendy Richard.

But the hospital was negligent in its care for Carole Burwash, 53, according to Felicity Reynolds, professor of obstetric anaesthesia, who prepared a report on the death for a police investigation ordered by the Westminster Coroner.

Yesterday Mrs Burwash's husband, Brian, a businessman, said: "The hospital has thick carpets and the wine list has super Chablis. But they didn't bloody well have an anaesthetist late at night to save my wife."

Mrs Burwash, a fit housewife whose hobbies were golf, tennis and swimming, needed a hysterectomy because of

problems associated with the menopause. She was admitted to the hospital in Marylebone, west London, last October. The nursing admission report described her as "feeling very anxious about both surgery and anaesthetic. Also anxious about post-op pain and being left alone."

After a successful operation, Mrs Burwash, a grandmother and mother of three, was visited in her private room by her husband and their son Rupert, 22, during the evening. They found her in happy mood, free from pain.

At 10pm, she began experiencing some pain, as would be expected, and required a top-up of epidural opiate.

She should have been given 3mg of diamorphine, a controlled drug. But the prescription had been written wrongly by the anaesthetist, Giok Lim. It appeared to say "30mg" but since this would be much more than an expected dose, it was misinterpreted by the staff nurse and the resident medical officer, Richard Hornabrook, as 30mg, which



Giok Lim, whose prescription for diamorphine was misinterpreted, and Brian Burwash, second right, with his sons and daughter yesterday

was still ten times too much.

At 10.40pm, Mrs Burwash was found collapsed. Dr Hornabrook tried to resuscitate her but had no specific training in the required technique.

Just before 11pm, Dr Lim was telephoned and he arrived 15 minutes later. He provided the correct resuscitation method, intubation, which involves passing a breathing tube into the windpipe. The 35-minute

delay before Mrs Burwash was effectively resuscitated would have contributed to her death, three days later, from brain damage, according to Professor Reynolds's report for the police. The Crown Prosecution Service decided against criminal charges.

Professor Reynolds identified seven errors that led to the death. She said Dr Lim was most responsible for negligence because of his incorrect

written prescription and the absence of direct communication with Dr Hornabrook. The hospital was negligent because it had no trained resuscitation team, no protocol for epidural opioids and had appointed an RMO without anaesthetic experience.

Her report said: "Probably the most important inherent drawback of a private hospital, or indeed any small isolated hospital, is that there is no

resident anaesthetist to top up epidurals and, above all, to provide an efficient resuscitation service. Any medicine or surgery practised under such circumstances is therefore inevitably less safe than a National Health Service Hospital with an appropriate complement of resident staff."

Mr Burwash, 60, a leading figure in the recruitment business, had bought a home on Alderney to which he and his

wife intended to retire. She was a popular hostess at dinner parties, an active member of Hampstead Parish Church and drove her husband to work every day. Her organs have been transplanted into seven people.

Mr Burwash, who wants compensation from the hospital, said: "The CPS lacked the courage to bring criminal charges against those who killed my wife."

## Overdose death

WORK

Continued from page 1

emergency resuscitation. He had been on duty for 14 hours when he was asked to top up Mrs Burwash's epidural, although he said that did not affect his judgment. Both he and the staff nurse, Mandy Hatcher, had read the drug chart as saying 30mg.

The coroner agreed that the entry on the chart was unclear — although on balance he thought it read 3 rather than 30 — but even after Dr Hornabrook had been given, vital clues were missed.

Although large doses of painkiller were not unusual at the hospital, only small amounts should have been given by epidural. And when nurses noticed that Mrs Burwash had fallen asleep within a minute, alarm bells should have rung as it was one of the first signs of respiratory difficulties.

Then, when it came to the resuscitation attempt, there was no back-up. Dr Hornabrook was the only doctor on duty and it was not until Dr Lim was called from home that a tube could be placed into Mrs Burwash's throat to help her breathe.

Felicity Reynolds, a professor in obstetric anaesthesia, said Mrs Burwash might have lived, but the staff failed to recognise the danger signals of massive overdosing and did not act swiftly enough. The hospital did not have an adequate crash team on site. She added that in all

hospitals, NHS and private, doctors were expected to be jack-of-all-trades, but this was not easy to do.

Mr Burwash told the inquest that at around 1am he was telephoned by the consultant in charge of her case who said there had been an appalling mistake. He raced to the hospital and spoke with Dr Hornabrook. "He was contrite and made no attempt to hide away. He came out and told me face-to-face." Mrs Burwash was transferred to the Middlesex NHS hospital, where she died three days later.

Yesterday, Mr Burwash said that he would be taking civil action against the Princess Grace — although no amount of money would replace his wife. "I would pay a million pounds to have her back. But I can never have her back. I feel very disappointed about both doctors," he said.

The coroner said that he would be writing to the hospital urging it to keep its procedures constantly under review, but Keith Erskine, chief executive of the Princess Grace Hospital, said last night that already happened. There had been an internal inquiry into the death of Mrs Burwash and Dr Hornabrook and Miss Hatcher had been suspended, but both had since been reinstated.

Mr Erskine said: "Fundamentally the hospital has always felt it was the most tragic of accidents. All our sympathies are with the family."

## Doctors who hid cancer biopsy error are cleared

By DIANA THORP

TWO doctors who did not tell a young mother dying of cancer that two biopsies had been wrongly diagnosed were found not guilty of serious professional misconduct.

The professional conduct committee of the General Medical Council concluded that the evidence against Christopher Simpson, 48, a consultant surgeon, and Dr James Ferguson, 59, the medical director of South Ayrshire Hospitals NHS Trust, was insufficient to support a finding of serious professional misconduct.

Carol Ann Clark, 32, died in August 1994 of breast cancer after two biopsies in August and September 1993 were wrongly diagnosed. The mother of two and part-time auxiliary nurse became pregnant after the all-clear and had to have a termination when the cancer was diagnosed in February 1994.

Mrs Clark was not told about the wrong diagnoses of the biopsies, which were discovered in February 1994. Mr Clark learnt about them only at a meeting with Mr Simpson in October 1994. It had been alleged that Mrs Clark was not informed because the doctors feared a big compensation claim.

Philip Gaisford, counsel for Mr Simpson, told the hearing that there was no duty in 1993 for a doctor to answer questions about mistakes in past treatment, especially by other people. He said the first impulse of any doctor was to act in the best interest of the patient. It was not Mr Simp-

son's mistake but the mistake of a pathologist that caused the error.

"Mr Simpson was making a decision in what he perceived to be the best interest of the patient," Mr Gaisford said. "He did not keep it to himself. He told Dr Ferguson on the evidence and he told the general practitioner as well."

"There is no evidence here that he was connected with any cover-up. There was no evidence that he was told of the death of Mrs Clark. There is no evidence that Mr Simpson could have benefited from any cover-up."

Mr Gaisford said Mr Simpson admitted the charge that he had been informed in February 1994 that there was a reporting error in the biopsies, but denied the allegation that at a meeting with Mr and Mrs Clark on May 17, 1994 he was asked about the results of two biopsies.

He had also admitted he did not disclose to Mrs Clark that the report of the biopsies had been found to be incorrect. Dr Ferguson denied charges that a letter he wrote to Mr Clark before the death was misleading.

Outside the hearing yesterday Mr Clark said knowing the truth would have made a difference to him and his wife.

He said that the decision was "obviously disappointing". However, he hoped everything that had come out during the case would make the South Ayrshire NHS Trust and the two doctors concerned review their relationships with patients and relatives. The doctors left without comment.

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مكتبة الأهل

THE TIMES WEDNESDAY JULY 3 1996

Quarter-finalist follows in footsteps of great grandmother, grandmother, grandfather and mother

STEFAN ROUSSEAU

# Wimbledon hope Henman keeps the family flag flying

BY ADRIAN LEE AND JOANNA BALE

WHEN Tim Henman strides onto the Centre Court at Wimbledon today, the first Briton to appear in a men's quarter final for 23 years, he will be carrying on a family tradition that stretches over four generations.

Henman's 84-year-old grandmother Susan Billington, the last woman to serve underarm at the championships, will be there to watch, no doubt remembering her late husband Henry, a Wimbledon star of the 1940s.

His great grandmother, Ellen Mary Stawell-Brown, Mrs Billington's mother, astonished society by becoming the first woman to serve overarm at Wimbledon, scoring a famous victory over the five times champion, Charlotte "Chatty" Cooper.

Speaking at her home in Thatcham, Berkshire, Mrs Billington, who is a member of the All England Club and watched her 21-year-old grandson's last match against the Swede Magnus Gustafsson.

From birth, Henman has been steeped in the tennis tradition. He began playing at the age of three on a court at his home in Oxford, coached by his mother Jane, who played Junior Wimbledon.

He says: "When I got older I liked to think that I was following in my grandfather's footsteps by playing at Wimbledon, but probably the most important factor from my background was that we had a court at home and I always had someone to practise with."

After being trained as a child by David Lloyd, Henman left school at 16 with ten GCSEs to concentrate on his tennis career. He joined the junior tour and steadily made his name on the international circuit. He did not come to the attention of most tennis fans until last year's Wimbledon when he was disqualified and fined nearly £2,000 for gross code violations during a doubles match. He hit a ball girl when smashing a ball in a fit of temper.

This week, with "Henmania" reaching fever pitch, fans have been queuing for tickets since Monday morning. At their head is a 79-year-old gentleman who has camped on the pavement each year for a quarter of a century. In 1973 Bob Sunley, from Ammanford, Dyfed, saw the Briton Roger Taylor play during the championships but missed the quarter final.

Mr Sunley, a former accountant, is on first name terms with his neighbours in the queue and last night they had a barbecue. Armed with a weighty Mary Wesley novel, a supply of crosswords and a

one-man tent, Mr Sunley said he was never bored. "One can always lie back and have a sleep, and fortunately I am retired so I have nothing very much to do," he said.

As the line grew, beneath a cardboard sign marked "This is the Q for Tim on Wednesday", excitement was already high. "Henman clearly has great potential and let's hope he makes the top grade," Mr Sunley said.

"I saw Roger Taylor beat Borg in '73 but didn't realise then how good a player Borg was going to be. It is against the odds for Henman to win, but it would be wonderful."

Mr Sunley, who said his

wife hated tennis and viewed his annual pilgrimages with "annoyed tolerance", once travelled from Africa, where he was working, to take his place in the Wimbledon queue. To mark his twenty-first year on the pavement outside the gates, he was presented with free tickets by officials.

Henman spent some of yesterday practising on outside courts as Todd Martin, his 26-year-old American opponent, the number 13 seed, completed a four-set victory over Thomas Johansson.

As he left his flat in Chiswick, west London, Henman said playing in front of a home audience was "special". But he was trying to focus on the

game rather than the hype surrounding it.

Martin said he was relishing the prospect of becoming the most hated man on Centre Court and would try to block out the crowd. "It's a tennis match, I've got to go out there and do my job."

He paid tribute to the Englishman. "Everything has improved. He has added a few pounds and that has helped his weight of shot and his serve has got better."

The pair have met once previously at Queens when Martin, born in Illinois but now a resident of Florida, won. He held the distinction of being the tallest player — 6ft 6ins — since 1973 to enter the

tennis world top ten, when he reached number five two years ago. He reached the semi-final at Wimbledon in the same year and has won more than £2 million prize money.

Henman yesterday won support from the man he is emulating, Roger Taylor. At Wimbledon for a veterans game, Taylor said he believed Henman was capable of getting to the final. "What sets him aside from the other British players, perhaps, is his temperament. He can handle the pressure as he gets close to making a semi-final or final."

In his home village of Weston-on-the-Green, Oxfordshire, supporters are willing Henman to victory. His local pub, the Ben Jonson, has created a cocktail called the Henman Smash.

Jane Henman yesterday bought supplies of bananas from the village store: her son eats 2lbs of them a day.

Staff and pupils at Henman's Oxford preparatory school, the Dragon, were also cheering on their old boy. Roger Trafford, the head teacher, said: "We're obviously extremely proud of him. It's not just the fact Tim is playing excellent tennis, it's the way he has conducted himself, too. This is exactly the kind of example we want our pupils to follow."

Wimbledon, pages 48, 49, 52



Henman's great grandmother caused a stir by serving overarm. His grandmother, with Henman and his mother when he was 18, served underarm



Tim Henman, relaxing yesterday ahead of the quarter final, said he was trying to concentrate on the match, not the hype surrounding it



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## Shake-up aims to curb £1.4bn costs of justice

By FRANCES GIBB  
LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

PROPOSALS to curb the £1.4 billion cost of the legal aid scheme, by controlling costs and making everyone pay towards their legal bills, were announced by the Lord Chancellor yesterday.

In the biggest shake-up of the scheme since its creation 46 years ago, a White Paper sets out the first controls on what has always been a demand-led scheme. Cash limits will be placed on the legal aid budget and lawyers will no longer be paid by hourly rates.

Legal services will come from a range of sources as well as lawyers, including citizens' advice bureaux and law centres. They will be awarded block contracts to provide services in bulk, within fixed budgets and on condition that they meet strict quality criteria.

Everyone, including the low-paid, will have to pay a contribution to costs in civil and criminal cases. They will also be liable for an opponent's costs should they lose.

The White Paper, called *Striking the Balance*, aims to stop the injustice of the present system for those facing legally aided opponents. It also hopes to prevent the "waste" caused by pursuing weak and trivial cases. Each case will be considered under tough standards of "deservingness".

The plans announced by

MAIN POINTS	
■ Cash limits on the legal aid scheme	
■ Legal services to be delivered by range of providers, working to quality controls and fixed budgets	
■ Sanctions on unsatisfactory providers	
■ Payment required: flat rate plus ongoing contributions in both civil and criminal legal aid	
■ Liability for opponent's costs	
■ Legal Aid Board to have power to recoup costs from future sale of a home	
■ Test of "deservingness", including chance of success	
■ Separate budget for major, expensive cases	

Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor, will revolutionise the present system, introducing elements of the private sector and an NHS-style internal market into legal aid services.

Lord Mackay said that the reforms were aimed at creating a legal aid scheme "that, pound for pound, buys more and better services; that targets those services only on cases that deserve support by the taxpayer; and which is fairer to the opponents of legally aided people".

People with legal expenses insurance will not be eligible for legal aid, regardless of means. The Government is considering whether to make it a rule that a person seeks legal advice on a "no win, no fee" basis before being allowed legal aid.

Instead of the Government

paying all legal aid bills as they arrive, in future it will determine what money should be spent, how and on whom.

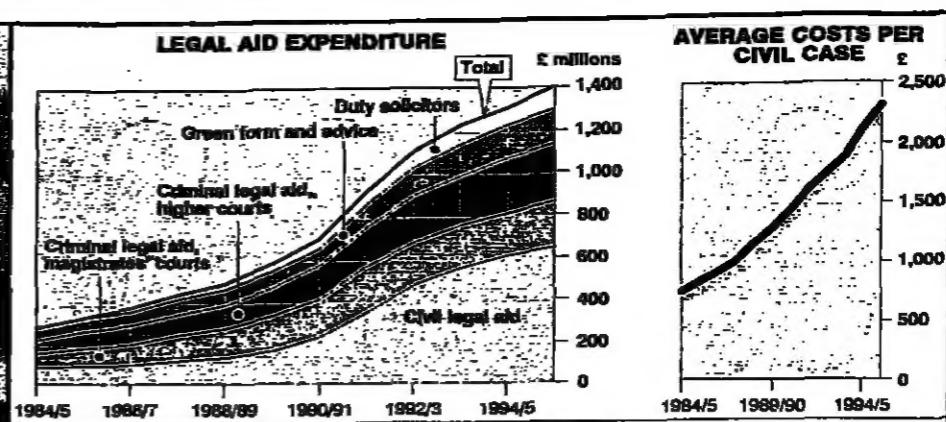
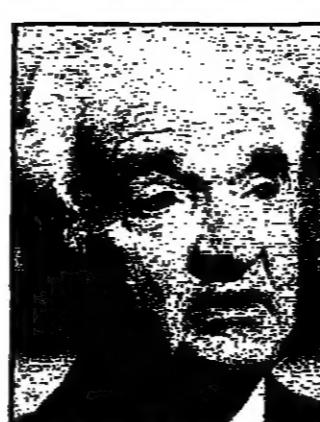
Contracts will be awarded on a rolling basis and will not be renewed at the same time to quell fears that people would be denied access to justice because funds had run out at the end of the year.

The Government's arrival as a big purchaser of legal services is expected to have a knock-on effect in the private sector, with insurance companies offering legal services for fixed rates. Legal expenses insurance and "no win, no fee" fees may also have a significant role.

Everyone will also have to pay towards criminal legal aid. This will be awarded, as now, on the basis of the "interests of justice". Those on benefits will be entitled to a "free" first court appearance. Others will pay a fixed contribution.

For further hearings, contributions will be decided by means testing. The amount will be refunded in the event of a defendant being acquitted.

At the heart of the plans is a determination to restore balance to the legal aid system, which is now often seen to



Lord Mackay, above, redrafting the legal aid system that was launched 46 years ago by Viscount Jowitt, below

Under the proposals, to be phased in over several years if approved, there will be a flat-rate fee in civil and family cases, possibly £10 to £20, payable by all including those receiving benefits. Further contributions will be sought from those who can afford them.

There will be an upper limit on contributions, and possibly a time limit set for payments. The Legal Aid Board will be able to recover any outstanding costs from the future sale of a legally aided person's house.

Everyone will also have to pay towards criminal legal aid. This will be awarded, as now, on the basis of the "interests of justice". Those on benefits will be entitled to a "free" first court appearance. Others will pay a fixed contribution.

For further hearings, contributions will be decided by means testing. The amount will be refunded in the event of a defendant being acquitted.

There is also the "interests of the taxpayer in ensuring that public spending is controlled, and that money is not wasted on undeserving cases

but is made to go as far as it can to meet genuine need". People should pay what they reasonably can towards their legal aid bills, the White Paper says.

"The needs of people who require help must be balanced against the rights of their unassisted opponents, and of victims and witnesses, to fair treatment."

The Government believes that the reforms will be a "vote-catcher" that will appeal

to Middle England, on the grounds of giving the taxpayer better value for money and ensuring that middle-income groups are not vulnerable to an open-ended legal aid ticket to sue.

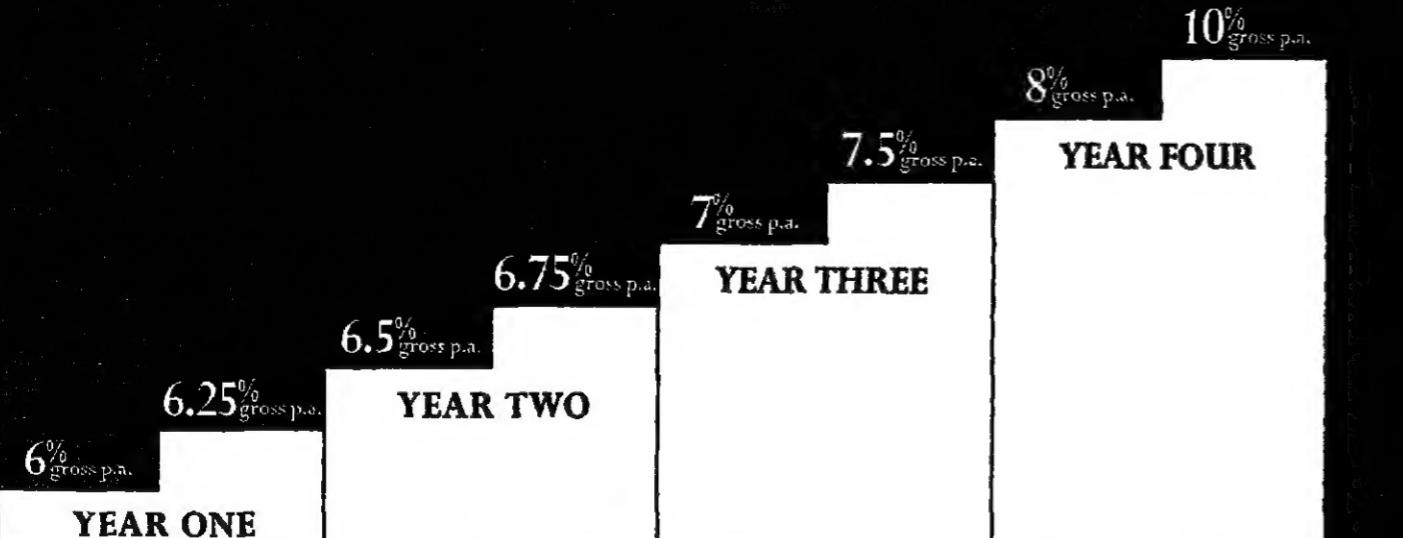
□ *Striking the Balance: the Future of Legal Aid in England and Wales* (Stationery Office: £1.80)

Leading article, page 21



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### CASES THAT TRIGGERED LEGAL AID DEBATE

## How public money went to 'rich and undeserving'

LEGAL aid payments have repeatedly caused controversy as public money has been handed out in cases that appeared trivial or undeserving and to claimants who seemed to have access to ample funds of their own.

Announcing his plans to reorganise the system last week, Lord Mackay of Clashfern admitted that public confidence in legal aid was at "a dangerously low ebb".

Before the current case of the cancer patient Cyril Smith, given legal aid to sue the health service because he was told he had only months to live, the following actions made news:

Simon Foster, a former RAF officer, was awarded legal aid last month to try to force his health authority to give him a sex change.

A feud between neighbours, which began during the 1984 pit strike and was concluded

in court last month with the judge ordering each to pay the other £75, cost taxpayers a five-figure legal aid bill.

Jawad Hashim, one-time aide to the Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein, obtained £4 million legal aid although he had six homes around the world. He was defending a £34 million civil fraud claim brought by the Arab Monetary Fund.

A German inventor living in Italy sued Sony in the High Court in April at a cost to the British taxpayer of £500,000.

A robber turned informer was given aid in February to sue a chief constable over allegedly unpaid "tip-off fees".

Legal aid was granted to Steve Charalambous, an armed robber, so he could sue police for the "pain and distress" caused when he was shot during a robbery. The aid was later withdrawn. A car thief was given aid in February.

A CIVIL servant in Liverpool

faced a claim for possession, rent arrears and damages.

The case was thrown out but went to appeal — again on legal aid. Mrs Hartley died before it was heard and Mr Derbyshire felt morally obliged to take over as defendant. Again, the claim was thrown out but he has still failed to recoup costs of about £20,000 from the Legal Aid Board. He was offered £3,500.

John Conlon, his solicitor, yesterday said: "Whether the reforms go far enough to rectify this injustice we shall have to wait and see."

## When an unjust scheme left a winning litigant out of pocket

Leslie Hartley, took a weekly tenancy of the house 30 years ago and agreed a rent with Elizabeth Jones, who claimed to be the owner. Co-ownership claims led to a dispute and Mr Hartley found himself facing conflicting demands for rent. He said he would pay no more until the dispute was settled.

Mrs Jones died. But her son had married and separated and his estranged wife's daughter was granted legal aid to pursue the claim against the Hartleys. Mr Hartley died and his widow, Margaret,

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ATOL 1053

مكتبة من الأهل

Woman whose main occupation was said to be shopping must make do on £8.8m

## Billionaire's ex-wife faces £1.5m bill for divorce challenge

BY MICHAEL HORNELL

**AN AMERICAN** socialite who demanded a bigger divorce settlement from her billionaire husband yesterday lost a Court of Appeal attempt to increase her £8.85 million award. She now faces a £1.5 million bill for legal costs.

Katina Dart, 38, whose principal occupation was said to be shopping, lost her action to have the award increased to £120 million. Mrs Dart, whose lifestyle included flying in the family jet from their London home to Michigan for dental appointments, challenged the settlement made by her husband, Robert.

Mr Dart's family firm, Dart Container Corp, founded in 1937, manufactures polystyrene containers used by fast-food restaurants. The family moved to Britain for financial reasons in 1993 and Mr Dart, 37, shortly afterwards filed for divorce. It was claimed that he knew a settlement in the English courts would be a fraction of what he would have to pay in America, a practice known in legal circles as "forum shopping".

He was granted a decree nisi last July and in April Mr Justice Johnson awarded Mrs Dart £8.85 million in the High Court. Her counsel, the leading divorce QC James Munby, argued that a judge in the couple's home state of Michigan



Robert Dart: moved for financial reasons

gan would have awarded up to £200 million and said settlement scales should be harmonised throughout comparable legal systems.

Yesterday Lady Justice Butler-Sloss, with Lords Justices Gibson and Thorpe, turned down her plea to have the settlement increased. After their 37-page judgment was

handed down, Margaret Bennett, Mrs Dart's solicitor, said: "This will mean a major cut in her lifestyle. She had the benefit of a private jet at her disposal at any time. She lives in a very large house and the settlement left little provision for her to have the help of staff."

The couple, who were high-school sweethearts, were married in 1980 in Lansing, Michigan, and Mrs Dart has returned to their 30-acre estate there with the children, William, 13, and Ariana, 10.

The case, which has been to court 23 times, remains unfinished. After leave to appeal to the House of Lords was turned down, Mrs Dart's lawyers said yesterday that they might apply directly to the Law Lords. Meanwhile action will continue in the American courts. Mr and Mrs Dart were both said to be abroad yesterday and unwilling to comment.

The Appeal Court in effect left intact the so-called "millionaire's defence" in big-money settlements which has made the English divorce courts attractive to wealthy husbands. Under that defense, the courts award wives not a proportion of their husband's wealth but an amount they consider sufficient to keep them in the style to which they have become accustomed.

Lady Justice Butler-Sloss was conditional on Mrs Dart



Katina Dart: claimed that the divorce settlement had left little provision for her to have the help of staff

did hint that the time may be close for British courts to make higher awards in cases involving the seriously rich.

Mr Justice Johnson had ruled that Mrs Dart was entitled to a lump sum award of £8.85 million and that Mr Dart should also pay £2,500 a month maintenance for each child. The lump sum was

conditional on Mrs Dart

transferring her interest in a house in Kensington, London, to her husband and relinquishing her interest in two Porsches, a Ferrari, another car and a painting, and transferring 1,624 shares in the Dart Container Corp to him.

The court was told that the original £8.85 million award was designed to meet Mrs Dart's needs for the occasional

plane charter, a small second house and her wardrobe. During the case, however, it became clear that the continuation of her lifestyle might require a bigger sum.

She has maintained a team of bodyguards at her American home, where an enormous swimming pool is the envy of neighbours. Her favourite cars, among a fleet of others,

are said to include a Jaguar XJ6 and a limited-edition Jeep Cherokee.

Mrs Dart maintains she agreed to move to London with her husband three years ago only after his father, co-founder of the family business, promised to set up offshore trusts in which she and her husband would each receive £300 million.

## Crime did not pay for armed robber who stole to save his marriage

**A MAN** who turned to armed robbery in a fruitless attempt to save his marriage was jailed for 11 years yesterday. Carl Morris's wife, Mandy, divorced him and tipped off police after she had helped to spend most of his share of the proceeds from the £286,000 security van raid, the Old Bailey was told.

The money was spent on holiday

homes, cars and champagne parties. William Clegg, QC, for Morris, said: "He decided to commit the crime because he had marriage problems. He was taking home only £200 a week as a manual labourer and his wife found it difficult to budget. They had got into deep financial trouble.

"When he got the money he spent

it on his wife and their young son, trying to patch up a failing marriage. But the marriage failed anyway and it is fair to say that his wife finally left him only after she had managed to spend a good deal of the proceeds.

Carl hoped to set himself and his wife up in business for the rest of their lives but that did not happen,

and now he has lost everything. Morris's brother Adam, 32, who worked as a Securicor guard and provided inside knowledge for the robbery, was jailed for 13 years.

Ian Darling, for the prosecution, said that Carl Morris ambushed the van in December 1994 as his brother and his unsuspecting colleague, Rick Potter, 30, were collecting

from a supermarket in Poplar, east London.

Carl Morris burst into the van wearing a balaclava and brandishing a fake pistol. Mr Potter was bound, gagged and blindfolded so that he was unable to see his colleague helping the robber to drill into the van's safe. Before escaping, Carl Morris tied up his brother.

After her marriage ended bitterly last year Mrs Morris, 28, went to the police. "She told the police her husband had turned up with a sack of money which he hid in the loft," Mr Darling said.

Carl, of Romford, east London, and Adam, of Dagenham, admitted robbery and possessing an imitation firearm with intent.

### NEWS IN BRIEF

## Mother, 19, killed on tractor ride

A 19-year-old mother was crushed to death when she fell under a six-tonne tractor that had been stolen from a compound near Wigan. Christine Gould was riding down a dirt track on the giant digger with her mother and a teenage friend when she slipped and was dragged under the metal tracks, police believe. The two others jumped to safety before the tractor careered into a lake.

### First gas station

Britain's first purpose-built gas filling station has been opened by Earl Ferrers, the Environment Minister. It will provide fuel for Citybus in Southampton, a fleet of 16 buses powered by compressed natural gas.

### Farming deaths

The number of farm workers killed in agricultural accidents rose to 21 in 1995-96, compared with 14 in the previous 12 months, according to the Health and Safety Executive. Total farm deaths remained steady at 48.

### Wing and prayer

The Rev Anthony Kelton, a pentecostal minister from Co Durham who admits to being terrified of heights, has agreed to marry a couple from Gloucestershire next month while wing-walking on a bi-plane.

### Harriers die

Four young Montagu's harriers reared in a nest that had been guarded to foil egg collectors have been killed by foxes. They died three days after a 24-hour watch on the nest in the New Forest, Hampshire, was called off.

### Flower power

Bovis has agreed to dig up a wild flower meadow at Wilmcote, Warwickshire, and re-lay it quarter of a mile away before building 49 homes on the site. The company will also maintain the meadow for three years.

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Warmer summers and more tourists are forecast — but so too are storms, floods and mosquitoes

## Global warming will bring Paris weather to the South

By NICK NUTTALL  
ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

THE South of England will enjoy the weather of the Paris Basin as global warming pushes the climate of Europe northwards, scientists said yesterday.

But the benefits of average summer temperatures 1.6C hotter by 2050 will be overwhelmed by a sharp rise in gales, storms and the loss of wildlife. The ski industry in Scotland will collapse and up to 400,000 hectares of land in the Fens will be at risk from flooding as sea levels rise.

John Gummer, the Environment Secretary, said: "While it may seem attractive for the South of England to inherit the climate presently enjoyed by the residents of the Paris Basin and the Loire, this shift also has disadvantages. Such changes could have far-reaching effects on our society, environment and global economy."

The findings come in the



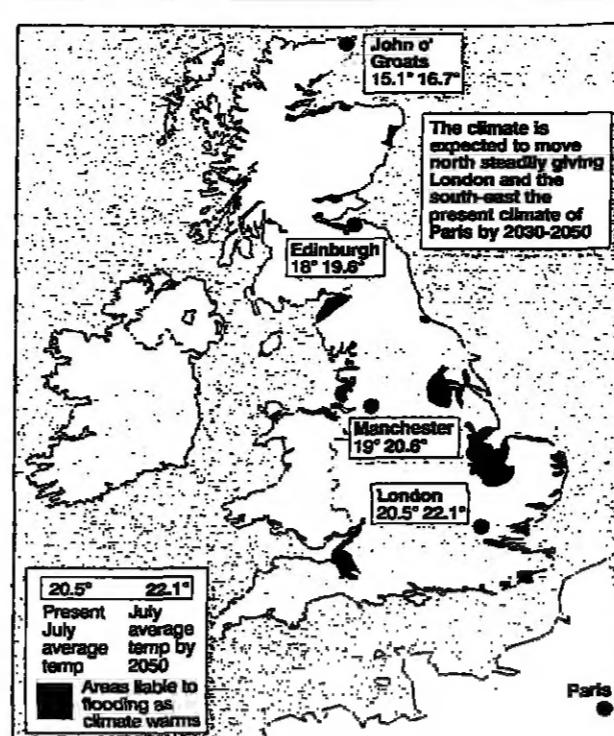
Professor Martin Parry, one of the researchers, predicts that many species will be unable to adapt

first detailed study of how global warming will affect Britain. The scientists believe the landscape and lifestyle of the country will be changed forever by 2050 to 2060 with climate zones pushed northwards by more than 25 miles.

The tourist industry and wine makers will benefit and continental butterflies will be-

come commonplace. But Professor Martin Parry of University College London, one of the scientists behind the report, said he believed that overall there would be more negative impacts.

Professor Parry, chairman of the Climate Change Impacts Review Group, said species likely to be lost included the mountain hare and the Arctic char fish of the Lake District. Ice Age relict and Alpine species that survive in mountain ranges such as the Cairngorms will be the worst hit. These include the snowy



The climate is expected to move north steadily giving London and the south-east the present climate of Paris by 2050-2050

Edinburgh 18° 19.6°  
Manchester 19° 20.5°  
London 20.5° 22.1°  
Paris

20.5° 22.1°  
Present July average temp by 2050  
■ Areas liable to flooding as climate warms

owl, ptarmigan and snow bunting. The scientists believe some vulnerable species will have to be moved northwards along wildlife "corridors". The heathland in areas such as Dorset that is home to the sand lizard will become more prone to fires.

Coastal dune systems may be invaded more rapidly by alien species such as the Honenicot fig and imported pond weeds, such as American duckweed, are expected to overrun rivers and streams.

Insurance claims are likely to rise as storms and floods cause structural damage.

The report comes in the run-

### FORECAST 2030

There will be positive and negative impacts on the British Isles from climate change by 2030 to 2050, scientists said.

#### Weather and water supplies:

Temperatures will rise by about 0.2C a decade, reaching an average 1.6C hotter than now. There will be more rain but it will be mainly in the North with the North West wetter by 7 per cent. In the South, summer rainfall will fall 8 per cent. Demand for irrigation water in the South will soar 65 per cent, putting further pressure on supplies. More windy days are forecast and the frequency of gales across the whole country is expected to climb by a third.

#### Sea Levels:

A hotter world will raise sea levels as the oceans expand. Sea levels could rise 37cm but the impact will be severest in the South and East, where the land is sinking, so the actual rise could be as high as 50cm. Low-lying areas will be at increased risk of flooding and vulnerable to more storms. About 400,000ha might be at risk in the Fens alone.

#### Agriculture and Forestry:

Timber production, mainly centred on introduced conifer species, is likely to increase 15 per cent by 2050. Some sensitive species, such as beeches, could die out. Urban trees, such as lime and planes, in the South will suffer from more pests and drought. Warmer weather in the North should favour dairy herds. Sunflowers and maize could replace wheat and other crops in the South. Trout farming in the South is likely to be hit by rising temperatures and low-flow rivers.

concern that others might be fudging their figures.

The push to cut output has become bogged down in the US, the biggest emitter of global-warming gases, with Washington dithering under pressure from the Senate.

Weather, page 26

## Nine out of ten women accuse press of bias

By ALEXANDRA FREAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

NEARLY 90 per cent of women believe that newspapers are biased against their sex and more than half are offended by the way they are treated by the press, according to a study published yesterday.

Three-quarters of the 500 women questioned by researchers for the pressure group Women in Journalism also said that they could not think of a single newspaper that was on their side at all.

Tabloid papers came out worse, with 77 per cent of respondents claiming they were the most biased. An analysis of similar stories about men and women showed a significant degree of sexism against women. When the MPs Alan Howarth and Emma Nicholson defected from the Tory party last year, Mr Howarth was seen as a moral crusader while Ms Nicholson was derided as a "vain and silly" woman.

Even in papers that criticised both of them, Ms Nicholson fared worse. She was described as "menopausal", "pseudo-feminist" and "not a serious politician", while Mr Howarth was merely "disillusioned", "batty" or "bizarre and eccentric". Speaking yesterday at the launch of the

study, Ms Nicholson said: "My treatment at the hands of the press ... was startling. Reaction in many quarters was blatantly sexist."

Press coverage of the deaths of the mountaineers Alison Hargreaves and Geoff Tiers prompted many stories about whether a mother should be climbing mountains but nothing on whether a father should do the same thing. Ms Hargreaves's death received 800 paragraphs of coverage, compared to just 20 for Mr Tiers.

"It is clear," the study concluded, "that parenthood and dangerous sports are only an issue if you are female".

The launch of the study was attended by a number of public figures who said they had been subjected to similar bias. Clare Spottiswoode, Director-General of Gas Supply, said: "At various times ... I have been likened in the press to Boadicea and Annie Oakley, and been called 'mumsy', 'the laughing regulator' and described as resembling Ingrid Bergman on a bad hair day. I have even had my character and competence assessed in an article based solely on the floral print of my dress."

Media, pages 24, 25

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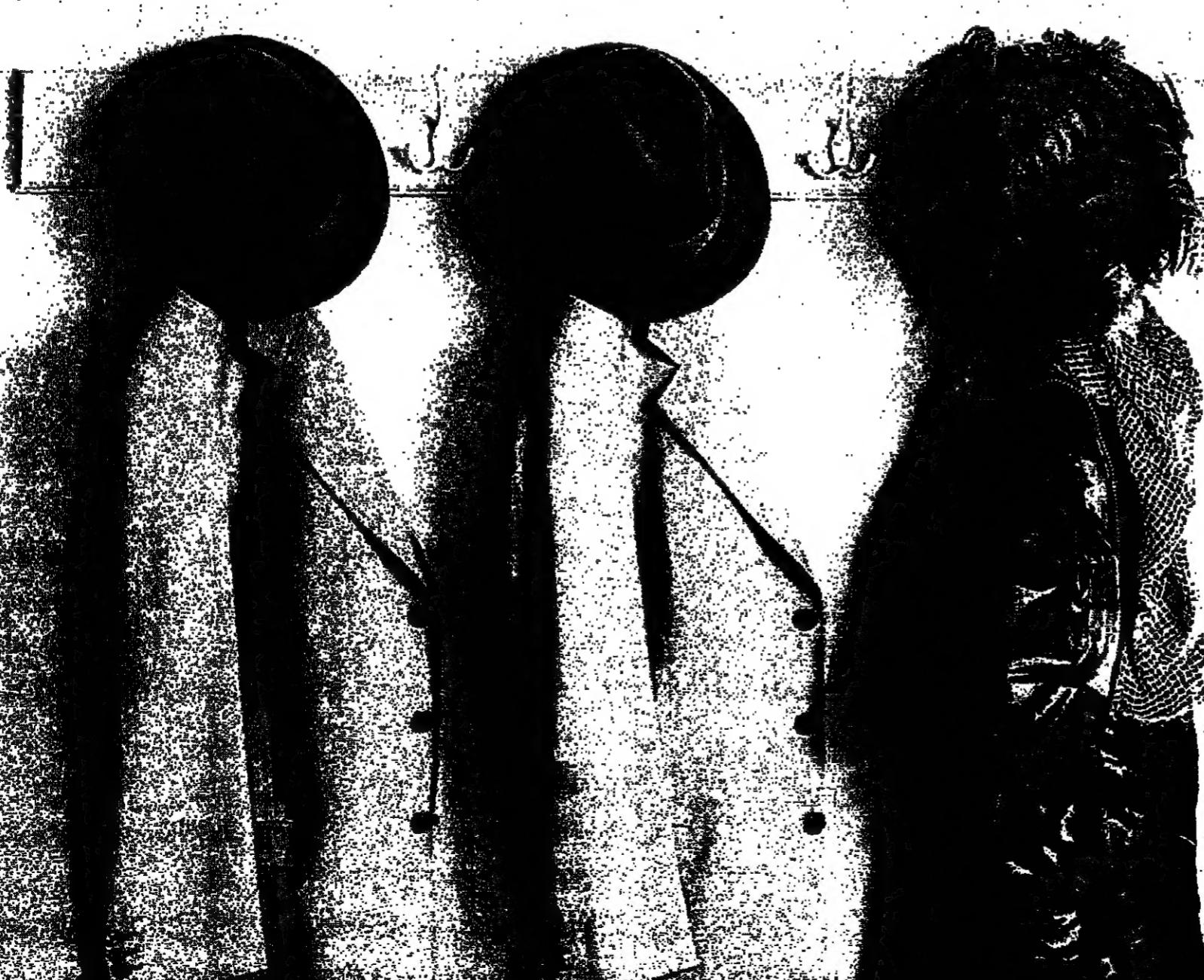
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# Clinical care next standard to go under the microscope

By JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

DEATH rates for NHS trusts in England are likely to be published, possibly as early as next year, to help patients and their GPs choose those hospitals with the highest clinical standards. Stephen Dorrell, the health secretary, said yesterday.

New measures of the quality of clinical care, including death rates, re-operation rates and infection rates, are being considered for inclusion in the annual league table of hospital performance, published yesterday. Pilot studies of 12 clinical indicators which have been agreed by doctors' leaders are to be completed by the end of the year.

Launching this year's tables, the third year in which they have been published, Mr Dorrell said they provided a valuable measure of the service provided in terms of its convenience for patients but did not address standards of clinical care. The tables, cover-

ing more than 500 NHS trusts, reveal wide variations across a range of indicators, including waiting times, cancelled operations and day surgery.

They were criticised by Labour and the Liberal Democ-

rats and medical organisations. Harriet Harman, Shadow Health Secretary, said they emphasised quantity at the expense of quality. Liberal Democrat health spokesman Simon Hughes dismissed the tables as "superficial, one-dimensional and misguided".

Mr Dorrell said ministers were under pressure to provide better information in terms of the success rates of treatment. He said he could not pre-judge the outcome of the pilot studies but was committed to introducing measures of clinical performance.

The tables show that NHS trusts have improved their

performance overall with the number of five-star ratings up 23 per cent on last year. In total, 47 per cent of all star-rated performances were awarded five stars compared with 29 per cent in the first set of tables, two years ago.

Nationally, the tables show a rise in operations carried out and not rescheduled within one month – from seven to eight for each NHS trust – reflecting increasing pressure on the service caused by the rise in emergency admissions.

One of the worst regions in this respect – West Midlands, where three hospitals record over 100 patients each affected in this way – is also the one where the drive to reduce waiting lists has been strongest. Waiting times for in-patient admissions range from 11 per cent of patients admitted within three months to 100 per cent and for outpatients appointments from 19 per cent seen in 13 weeks to 100

per cent. For the first time this year immunisation and cervical smear rates are included in the tables. On measles, mumps and rubella vaccinations, rates vary from 77.2 per cent of children to 96.3 per cent in different areas. On cervical screening the rates range from 64 per cent to 98 per cent.

As in past years, local district general hospitals have outperformed the best-known teaching hospitals. Alan Langlands, chief executive of the NHS, said the teaching hospitals were a special case.

"They are usually working at the cutting edge in developing new services, they have a more complex case mix and they draw patients from a wider area," he said.

Mr Dorrell said the pilot studies of clinical indicators were proceeding with the agreement of the Joint Consultants Committee representing the royal medical colleges and the British Medical Associa-

tion. Discussions began last year after the committee criticised the league tables as irrelevant. Hospital death rates are already published in Scotland, but the committee dismissed these as unhelpful.

Sir Norman Browne, chair-



Life and death: Stephen Dorrell revealed plans at yesterday's launch of hospital league tables to publish mortality rates

man of the committee and former president of the Royal College of Surgeons, said yesterday that doctors would support the clinical indicators if they could be shown to work. But there was scepticism about the cost of collect-

ing the information from all hospitals when spot checks on a few might achieve the same.

The Royal College of Nursing said the tables were still "side-stepping" quality of patient care. "The league tables still do nothing to provide

the general public with information about the quality of care they can expect," said Christine Hancock, RCN general secretary. "People about to go into hospital need to know how well they can be expected to recover."

## How they are rated

Hospitals and National Health Service Trusts are listed alphabetically by region, showing their percentage score and star rating for 1995-96. Stars are given for performance from one to five; the better the performance, the more stars. Where no stars are given, the Audit Commission's auditors were not satisfied with the systems for collecting the information. The tables here show three of the seven main indicators.

Operations cancelled:	Out-patient waiting times:	In-patient waiting times:	percentage of patients seen within 13 weeks	percentage of patients admitted within 3 weeks
number of patients not admitted within a month of cancellation of their operation				

### WEST MIDLANDS

England averages	8	83	71
Alexandra H'care	3 ***	91 ****	63 ***
Birmingham Children's Hosp	0 ***	78 ***	73 ***
Birmingham Heartlands Hosp	0 ***	70 ***	73 ***
Birmingham Women's H'care	1 ***	100 ****	80 ***
Black Country Mental Hth	—	100 ***	—
Burton H'pds	0 ***	88 ***	65 ***
City Hosp	106 *	85 ***	71 ***
Coventry H'care	—	100 ****	—
Dudley Gen H'pds	14 *	78 ***	65 ***
Dudley Royal H'pds	—	91 ***	—
Finedon Comm Hth	—	—	—
Foundation	—	86 ***	—
George Eliot Hosp	0 ***	92 ***	69 ***
Good Hope Hosp	168 *	81 ***	70 ***
Harford Hosp	0 ***	88 ***	88 ***
Harrow & St. John Comm Hth	—	88 ***	—
Kidderminster H'care	7 **	88 ***	88 ***
Mid-Staffordshire Gen Hosp	3 ***	77 ***	94 ***
North East Worcestershire Comm H'care	—	82 ***	—
North Staffordshire Combined H'care	—	83 ***	—
North Staffordshire Hosp	1 ***	72 ***	64 ***
North Warwickshire	—	100 ***	—
Nottingham Comm Hth	—	—	—
Northumbrian Mental Hth	—	87 ***	—
Premier Hth	0 ***	84 ***	84 ***
Princess Royal Hosp	0 ***	74 ***	74 ***
Robert Jones & Agnes Hunt Hosp	0 ***	85 ***	50 ***
Royal Orthopaedic Hosp	0 ***	85 ***	55 ***
Royal Shrewsbury H'pds	0 ***	70 ***	82 ***
Royal Wolverhampton H'pds	1 ***	75 ***	67 ***
Rugby H'pds	3 ***	81 ***	75 ***
Sandwell H'care	107 *	89 ***	75 ***
Shropshire Comm Hth Svc	2 ***	89 ***	83 ***
Shropshire's Mental Hth	—	96 ***	—
Southall H'care	—	84 ***	—
Solihull H'pds	0 ***	85 ***	77 ***
South Birmingham Mental Hth	—	94 ***	—
South Gloucestershire Gen H'pds	0 ***	72 ***	71 ***
South Warwickshire H'care	—	—	—
South Warwickshire Mental Hth Svcs	—	—	—
South Worcestershire Comm Hth	3 ***	80 ***	51 ***
UH Hospital Birmingham	27 *	88 ***	77 ***
Walsall H'care	0 ***	85 ***	85 ***
Walsall H'pds	6 **	79 ***	72 ***
Wolverhampton H'care	—	82 ***	—
Worcester Royal Infirmary	1 ***	93 ***	70 ***

### TRENT

England averages	8	83	71
Barnsley Comm & Priority Svcs	—	96 ****	66 ***
Barnsley District Gen H'pds	—	94 ***	84 ***
Bassetlaw & Chesterfield Svcs	0 ***	84 ***	75 ***
Central Nottinghamshire H'care	0 ***	79 ***	80 ***
Central Sheffield H'pds	0 ***	82 ***	78 ***
Chesterfield & Derbyshire Royal Hosps	—	—	—
Doncaster H'care	—	92 ***	—
Dove Valley Royal Infirmary & Maternity Hosp	—	—	—
Fosse Fth	—	84 ***	76 ***
Glenfield Hosp	—	85 ***	87 ***
Grantham & District H'pds	—	85 ***	85 ***
King's Mill Ctr H'pds Svcs	0 ***	67 ***	—
Lake District Royal Infirmary	—	75 ***	69 ***
Leicester Royal Infirmary	—	72 ***	69 ***
Lincoln District H'care	—	88 ***	100 ****
Lincoln H'pds	—	85 ***	82 ***
Lough & District H'care	—	82 ***	65 ***
Maltby H'care	—	—	—
Nottingham Gen H'pds	—	83 ***	70 ***
Nottingham City H'pds	—	90 ***	78 ***
Nottingham Comm Hth	—	—	—
Nottingham H'care	—	92 ***	—
Nottingham H'pds	—	92 ***	—
Outpatients Medical Ctr Nottingham	12 *	82 ***	84 ***
UH Hosp	—	79 ***	76 ***
Rotherham Gen H'pds	5 **	88 ***	63 ***
Rotherham Priority H'pds	—	86 ***	—
Sheffield Children's Hosp	0 ***	74 ***	75 ***
South Lincks Comm & Mental Hth Svcs	—	—	—
South Derbyshire Mental Hth	—	94 ***	—
West Lindsey	0 ***	78 ***	72 ***
Weston Park Hosp	0 ***	100 ***	100 ***

### SOUTH THAMES

England averages	8	83	71
Ashford Hosp	32 *	89 ***	48 *
Bethlem & Maudsley	—	76 ***	—
Bournemouth Comm & Mental Hth	—	99 ***	#
Brighton & Hove	25 *	77 ***	73 ***
Bromley H'pds	0 ***	77 ***	84 ***
Canterbury & Thanet Comm H'care	—	100 ***	—
Chichester Priority Svcs	—	87 ***	—
Crayford & Hornchurch	9 **	87 ***	49 *
Dartford & Gravesham	11 *	76 ***	48 *
East Surrey H'care	29 *	88 ***	66 ***
Eastbourne & County H'care	—	100 ***	—
Eastbourne H'pds	2 **	79 ***	59 **
Frimley Park Hosp	18 *	87 ***	73 ***
Greenwich H'care	0 ***	80 ***	73 ***
Guy's & St Thomas' Hosp	16 *	80 ***	75 ***
Hastings & Rother	6 **	85 ***	60 ***
Healthlands Mental Hth	—	—	—
Kent & Canterbury Hosps	10 *	82 ***	70 ***

### NORTHERN AND YORKSHIRE

England averages	8	83	71
Airedale	—	87 ***	82 ***
Bishop Auckland H'pds	0 ***	94 ***	78 ***
Bradford Comm Hth	—	92 ***	—
Bradford Hosps	—	85 ***	89 ***
Burnley & Pendle H'care	—	83 ***	—
Carileaf Hosp	—	81 ***	—
City Hosp Sunderland	—	83 ***	—
Com'ln H'pds North Durham	—	80 ***	—
Darlington Memorial Hosp	—	85 ***	—
East Yorkshire Comm H'care	—	82 ***	—
Freeman Grp of Hosps	—	82 ***	—
Gateshead H'care	—	89 ***	—
Gateshead Hosps	—	80 ***	—
Grimsby H'care	—	85 ***	—
Harrogate & Knaresborough H'pds	—	88 ***	—
Hartlepool & Peterlee H'pds	—	85 ***	—</td

Keep patients happy and the standard of treatment may pass unnoticed

## An exercise in damage limitation

Judging by the Ministry of Health league tables, the NHS administration would not have been able to teach the senior partner in my family practice in Norfolk very much about public relations. He was a clever, friendly man of huge charm who prided himself that he had not read a medical textbook or journal since the day he qualified at Bart's in 1925.

However, there are diagnostic limits to the power of kindness and an instinctive recognition that a patient is ill. When these limits had been exceeded — a diagnosis had been missed and a patient had suffered as a result — the old doctor launched a damage-limitation exercise. The smallholding attached to the practice provided the whereabouts. A minor blunder resulted in gifts of eggs for the invalid. If he had made a

major mistake, the patient received cream and eggs. After a real disaster the sufferer, or the surviving family, were given ham, eggs and cream. The doctor was considered a huge success.

The NHS is now working on the same principle as that employed by the old Norfolk doctor. Both reckon that if patients are kept happy, the standard of medical care may pass unnoticed. Doctors and nurses are now rightly encouraged to be courteous, to consider patients' feelings and to understand that other things being equal, there is no greater courtesy than to keep an anxious patient, already apprehensive about their visit to the hospital, waiting.

A kindly greeting when the patient arrives, and explanations as to why there is a wait, coupled with the provision of comfortable surroundings and

distracting activities, are a help but not the entire answer. If the time waiting for an appointment is to be kept very short, and busy out patient schedules are to be kept running to time, sacrifices will occasionally have to be made. Such a sacrifice may be good, attentive medicine.

The problem is that nobody knows how long a consultation will last. All too often what is expected to be a simple check on blood pressure may turn into a major examination if, when the patient is about to leave, they say: "By the way, I have rectal bleeding." If the patient is to be thoroughly

examined, the schedule will be ruined, the administrators will be cross and stars will be lost from the minister's assessment. But the patient may survive.

Nobody will deny that patients should be assessed as soon as possible when they reach hospital after an emergency, but the league table does not tell us who did the assessment, how thorough it was and how soon after receiving it the patient was treated.

The percentage of patients seen in out-patients within 13 or 26 weeks after an appointment was made is interesting but does not tell us who the

patients were or what they were suffering from. Waiting 26 weeks may be a death sentence for somebody with a highly malignant tumor and too long for a man with angina. But it may be of no consequence in a case of varicose veins. For the patient with coronary arterial disease, what really matters is how long after the initial outpatient appointment will be the wait for an angiogram.

Very often the wait for significant investigations is just as important as the time that elapses before the initial appointment.

The hospital league tables do not differentiate between the wait to see a renowned surgeon with an international reputation and a swindler who is notorious throughout the medical fraternity. Not unnaturally, the waiting list of the latter will be short. His

reward will be five stars from the Ministry of Health. The league tables give us some measure of the quality of the administration but tell us nothing about the medical efficiency of the units being judged. Patients are becoming more sophisticated and want to know to what extent their future may be prejudiced if they go to the wrong centre. But the league tables are not always comparing like with like and make no attempt to assess the problems with which different hospitals have to contend.

The longest wait comes to us all, eventually. Most people would prefer to spend a few more anxious minutes in outpatients for the chance to postpone it a little longer.

DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD  
MIKE SHARP



Pilgrim Trust's rating was a casualty of a virus

## Poorly rated trust laid low by a bug

BY DOMINIC KENNEDY  
SOCIAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

ONE of the worst-performing trusts in the league tables was afflicted by a virus which put 40 staff on sick leave when the assessments were carried out. Pilgrim Health NHS Trust in Boston, Lincolnshire, is taking a philosophical attitude to being stuck with a low rating until next year's figures are published.

A virus known as "winter vomiting" arrived in the town in the New Year, just as the statistics were being collected, said Jim Moss, public relations manager. The 643-bed district general hospital was forced to postpone 320 operations, cancel 13, isolate wards and refuse admissions as nurses, doctors and administrators went home with the bug. Three wards were closed.

The most unpleasant symptom of the Norwalk bug is projectile vomiting, which can last for 24 hours. Sufferers need several days to recover. The outbreak lasted for four weeks at the start of 1996. The

figures in the tables refer to the first three months of the year. Mr Moss said he did not expect to lose any contracts because the local doctors knew about the quality of the hospital's care.

The Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital on Stanmore, Middlesex, which also received low ratings, called for reform of the assessments, including a league table of bed scores.

"We would welcome the extension of these tables to cover quality measures such as infection rates and pressure sores where we know our rates to be particularly low," said Deborah Wheeler, director of nursing.

"Indicators like these more accurately reflect the quality of care the patient receives."

Forest Healthcare in east London, another trust which had a low score, blamed "increased pressure placed on the hospital as a result of the peaks in emergency activity last year."



Driving for better standards: Birmingham Heartlands guarantees all out-patients an appointment within 13 weeks

## 'Easy as booking a hotel or a flight'

BY JEREMY LAURANCE

BIRMINGHAM Heartlands Hospital is one of the most improved in the country, up from nine five-star ratings last year to 41 this year. It expects to do even better in 1997 because of big improvements made in the past 12 months to waiting times.

The inner-city teaching hospital, with 1,300 beds on three sites and a budget of £140 million a year, is one of the largest NHS trusts in the country. It has survived, and prospered from, what Robert Naylor, its chief executive, described as a "traumatic" merger with Solihull hospital, which had run up a deficit of £8 million. The West Midlands region has led the way in driving down

waiting lists under the influence of its former chief executive, Brian Edwards. Since April 1 this year, Birmingham Heartlands has guaranteed that all outpatients will be offered an appointment within 13 weeks and that inpatients will be admitted within six months.

Mr Naylor said: "We were treating thousands of patients who had been waiting a long time whom we had undertaken to treat to meet the guarantee. So these tables [based on figures collected in the first three months of 1996] show us worse than we are now."

Mr Naylor said the hospital was

aiming to move to a new "gold standard" of giving every patient a booked out-patient appointment at the time they saw their GP. "I want to make it as easy as booking a hotel or an airline flight."

One of the top trusts is Halton General Hospital in Cheshire, which has the highest proportion of five-star ratings in England. Steenie Cumiskey, the chief executive, explained how the league tables had helped to improve performance. "We didn't have a very good performance in accident and emergency," she said, "so we put in a triage room where a trained nurse assesses patients when they arrive and makes sure they are seen on clinical priority, rather than wait in turn." A&E now gets five stars.

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## When it comes to budgets, matron still knows best

BY DOMINIC KENNEDY

A TEAM of matrons has put a health trust at the top of the league tables, after being given the power and money to run nine hospitals in their image.

East Gloucestershire NHS Trust, whose reward of 47 five-star ratings is among the highest in the country, decided to scrap titles like "director of patient services" and put a matron in charge of nursing in every hospital.

The trust has cut out most of its middle-managers and is left with one of the lowest management budgets in the country, only 3.3 per cent of spending compared with a national average of 3.9 per cent.

Its medical director is a doctor, Peter Rosso, who shares his time between board meetings and being a consultant physician. This is a deliberate policy to keep directors' feet on the ground.

Mrs Lewis, 43, who has been nursing for 26 years,

remembers her first matron as a somewhat awesome character.

"She was stern. She was always very smartly dressed, with a crisp uniform, but she had the qualities we would look for today: excellent leadership and support of staff, putting the patient at the centre of whatever you are doing and maintaining standards.

"If you introduce yourself and say you are a matron, people look upon you as a caring person."

Unlike their starched-uniformed predecessors a generation ago, today's matrons

wear suits and have to learn about accounting. Mrs Lewis delegates her budget to ward sisters, who are each allowed to choose their staff and balance the books using agency nurses where necessary.

"If their response to me is that they came into nursing to nurse and not to look after money, I say to them that the one supports the other," she said.

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were committed to tradi-

tional values

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Lewis: committed to traditional values

### REGION BY REGION

#### WEST MIDLANDS

Birmingham Heartlands NHS Trust, a major inner city teaching hospital with 1,300 beds, is one of the most improved in the country (see story, left) and among the top performers in the region with 11 five-star ratings. The hospital in the city has some catching up to do. Three NHS trusts had over 100 cancelled operations which were not re-scheduled within a month — the Good Hope hospital, City Hospital and Sandwell hospital.

Both cases, only 78 per cent of A&E patients are assessed within five minutes of arrival (national average: 92 per cent). At Solihull and Goose Hospital, NHS Trust, the figure was at 68 per cent.

At City Hospitals Sunderland NHS Trust there are long waits for an out-patient appointment, only 63 per cent within 13 weeks (national average: 83 per cent) and 67 per cent within 26 weeks (national average: 97 per cent).

At North Cumbria NHS Trust, in Runcorn, Cheshire, for the second year running, is the champion general hospital in the region with 38 five-star rankings out of 52. South Manchester Hospital, including the Withington and Wythenshawe hospitals, had more five-star rankings than any other in the region, 43 out of 87.

At Lancaster Acute Hospitals NHS Trust, which runs Royal Lancaster Infirmary and five other hospitals and surgeries, is the most improved, with nine five-star last year.

North Cumbria Health Authority, serving Runcorn and Warrington, was the only in England which did not have a single patient waiting over 12 months.

Out-patients waiting Birmingham Women's Healthcare NHS Trust face one of the slowest services in the country. The hospital, which sees 100,000 out-patients a year, has patients seen within 30 minutes of their appointment time at 71 per cent compared with a national average of 80 per cent. The trust's one five-star rating is down from two last year's three-star rating, from 87 per cent of patients seen within the 30-minute limit.

Top performers in the Trent region are community trusts caring for the elderly, mentally ill and mentally handicapped and a specialist cancer hospital, Central Nottinghamshire Health Care NHS Trust, which includes five community hospitals covering three towns in the county.

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# Advert gurus create image of a Labour not worth buying

BY ANDREW PIERCE, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Tory offensive launched against Labour yesterday was the first to come from the combined creative skills of Sir Tim Bell, Maurice Saatchi, and Peter Gummer.

The ageing doyens of the advertising world have been dubbed "Faith, Hope and Charity" by officials at Conservative Central Office. They are rivals in business but close personal friends, and are united in their desire to keep Labour out of power and secure a fifth term for the Tories. They devised the high-risk "New Labour, New Danger" strategy.

Sir Tim and Mr Saatchi were the creative forces behind Margaret Thatcher's three election victories. Peter Gummer is a relative newcomer. As head of Shandwick public relations he worked behind the scenes on the 1992 election campaign.

That was masterminded by Maurice Saatchi. Sir Tim

having been excluded from the inner-circle by Chris Patten, then the party chairman. The campaign was derided as lacklustre.

It was Sir Tim who brought the present trio together. The idea grew last summer when he helped Maurice Saatchi to establish his new company, MC Saatchi. They concluded that Tony Blair's rise in the polls owed as much to his imperviousness to incoherent Tory attacks as to any great desire among voters for a Labour government.

Sir Tim, at his monthly breakfast meeting with Peter Gummer at the Connaught Hotel, confided that he and Mr Saatchi were proposing to offer their services to Brian Mawhinney, the Tory Party chairman. Mr Gummer was immediately enlisted.

They met Dr Mawhinney and Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister, after last year's party conference.

They unveiled a broad approach to redirect the Tory attack on the threat posed by "new" Labour. The "teflon" qualities of Mr Blair dominated the discussions. Dr Mawhinney and Mr Heseltine, frustrated by their failure to land any punches on Mr Blair, required little persuasion to change from portraying him as the smiling face of old Labour.

Brian Mawhinney delivering the Tory party's interpretation of new Labour thinking yesterday



Brian Mawhinney delivering the Tory party's interpretation of new Labour thinking yesterday

They also known as the "Three Musketeers", as they are also known at Smith Square, made a presentation to John Major in Downing Street. The Prime Minister was an instant convert. The strategy was confirmed after private research by Central Office showed that voters believed that Labour had changed under Blair.

Money rarely surfaced in

the strategy discussions as assurances were given at the outset that the £10 million cost of the pre-election campaign, the longest the Tories have waged, would be underwritten.

MC Saatchi will earn at least £1 million from the deal. Hopes are high at Central Office that the campaign will run smoothly. In the past the

lines of communication between Downing Street, Central Office and the advertising people have been blurred.

Sir Tim's relationship with Mr Major is good, albeit not as close as the one he enjoys with Lady Thatcher. Mr Major is friendly with Mr Gummer but closest to Mr Saatchi.

Danny Finkelstein, the head of the Tory research department, who wrote the 24,000-word alternative manifesto, *The Road to Ruin*, is also close to Dr Mawhinney and the Prime Minister.

*The Road to Ruin* is a parody of Labour's policy statement, *The Road to the Manifesto*, which will be published on Thursday. The Tory

document is a 64-page deconstruction of every policy statement made by Labour front-benchers since Mr Blair became leader. It has been printed in a red cover to demonstrate that Labour's instincts have not changed. The name is another product of the advertising trio.

Time will tell if they succeed. Sir Tim's recent clients include Boris Yeltsin and the Meat and Livestock Commission. The word at Central Office is that if the Tories win the general election, and the fortunes of British beef are restored, Sir Tim, who was given a knighthood by Lady Thatcher, will be given a peerage by John Major.

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## MAWHINNEY'S GUIDE TO LABOUR POLICIES

### What Labour has actually said:

Asked by Sir David Frost whether a fairer tax system meant that some people would pay less tax and quite a lot of people would pay more tax, John Prescott said: "That seems to be a reasonable interpretation about a fairer tax system."

Labour proposes to establish a new authority for London. It would have "limited spending and tax-raising powers". (*A Voice for London*, April 1995)

"Under my leadership I will never allow this country to be left behind or isolated in Europe." (Tony Blair to the Labour conference, 1995)

"Labour would overhaul prescription exemptions to include more people and all check-ups would be free." (David Blunkett, former health spokesman, December 10, 1993)

"The Tories spend over £100 million a year on the assisted places scheme. Under Labour the scheme will be phased out." (Tony Blair to the Labour conference, 1995)

### How the Tories translate it:

Under Labour government quite a lot of people would pay more tax. Beyond that we would prefer to keep our tax plans secret. After all, we are not stupid.

The valuable work of Ken Livingstone's GLC has been sorely missed in the ten years since it was senselessly scrapped by the Tories. Londoners have consistently called for its restoration.

Labour will never allow this country to be isolated in Europe. The best way of promoting British interests in Europe, and to ensure that we are not left behind as Europe integrates, is to acquiesce whenever we are in a minority.

Labour have consistently opposed all increases in charges for prescriptions, eye tests and dental care. We recognise that this places a moral duty upon us to reduce these charges on taking office. We think the provision of free eye tests to millionaires is a priority.

New Labour believes that no parents, however gifted their child in any field, should arrogantly want for their offspring a better quality of education than other less gifted children.

## Eternal search for slogan that sticks

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

IF THE Tories defy the odds and win a fifth successive general election, the "New Labour, New Danger" slogan will have played its part.

If it is still being used in six months, the chances are that it will have stuck. The best election slogans are remembered long after the circumstances that inspired them.

Two of the men behind yesterday's launch, Sir Tim Bell and Maurice Saatchi, were responsible for the vivid "Labour Isn't Working" poster in Margaret Thatcher's 1979 campaign.

Harold Macmillan's aside in 1957: "Let us be frank, most of our people have never had it so good" was modified to "You've never had it so good", and was widely used, although not officially, to help

the Tories to win in 1959. In the 1960s Labour's slogans were snappier than the Tories: "Let's go with Labour" (1964) and "You KNOW Labour Government works" (1966) may have helped to win both those elections while the Tories chose the pedestrian "Action not words".

The "double whammy" and "tan bombshell" anti-Labour slogans could have helped John Major to turn the tide towards the Tories' fourth successive win, in 1992.

In earlier days, David Lloyd-George scored with his 1918 "khaki election" slogan: "What is our task? To make Britain a fit country for heroes to live in." But caution does not pay. The Tories' "Safety first" slogan in 1929 preceded a Labour victory.

## Foolish comedy stunt reveals Tory desperation

RIDDELL  
ON POLITICS

when it is delivered by people who are themselves trusted, and the Tories no longer are in view of their record of higher public spending and taxes.

Moreover, the Tories cannot even stick consistently to the line that Labour is now "new" in its approach. Mr Heseltine seems to hanker after the former, theoretically dropped, strategy. On BBC Radio 4's *The World at One*, he said:

"A new danger for Labour is that old Labour will actually re-emerge if they were in power." What are we to believe is Labour "old" or "new"?

Mr Blair's statement tomorrow is intended to make all previous party proposals redundant. It will seek to offer reassurance through the discarding of past ideological baggage. Will the Tories, therefore, be rewriting *The Road to Ruin* to take account of these changes? Mr Blair will try to escape from the charge that Labour can only appear radical by promising more money. Instead, the main emphasis will be on five explicit, and illustrious, pledges on transferring money within programmes. Even here Mr Blair is being cautious. There will be no time scale on when money can be switched from the assisted places scheme to reducing class sizes or from NHS bureaucracy to cutting waiting lists.

More dubious is the attempted parody of "New Labour's Real Manifesto" on right-hand pages. That is crass where it is not plain silly. *The Road to Ruin* is full of wild exaggerations — for instance, ignoring the fact that regional assemblies for England would only be created at the end of a long process when clear public demand was demonstrated in a region via a referendum. It is also odd for the Tories to argue that "New Labour's Bill of Rights for New Britain will ensure that ultimate political power rests with unelected judges" when we are already signatories of the European Convention of Human Rights, which ensures that rulings are made by judges overseas. The real flaw is that parody works only

if it is delivered by people who are themselves trusted.

Moreover, the Tories cannot even stick consistently to the line that Labour is now "new" in its approach. Mr Heseltine seems to hanker after the former, theoretically dropped, strategy. On BBC Radio 4's *The World at One*, he said:

"A new danger for Labour is that old Labour will actually re-emerge if they were in power." What are we to believe is Labour "old" or "new"?

Mr Blair has, of course, offended some in his party, but he believes that Labour requires such shock treatment if the party is to change — and most people will accept in the end that it is the right thing to do. The Tories' slogan, "New Labour, New Danger", is better than their previous efforts, but it shows yet again that Mr Blair is setting the political agenda: as the Opposition's new poster will say, "New Labour — Now It's Official".

PETER RIDDELL

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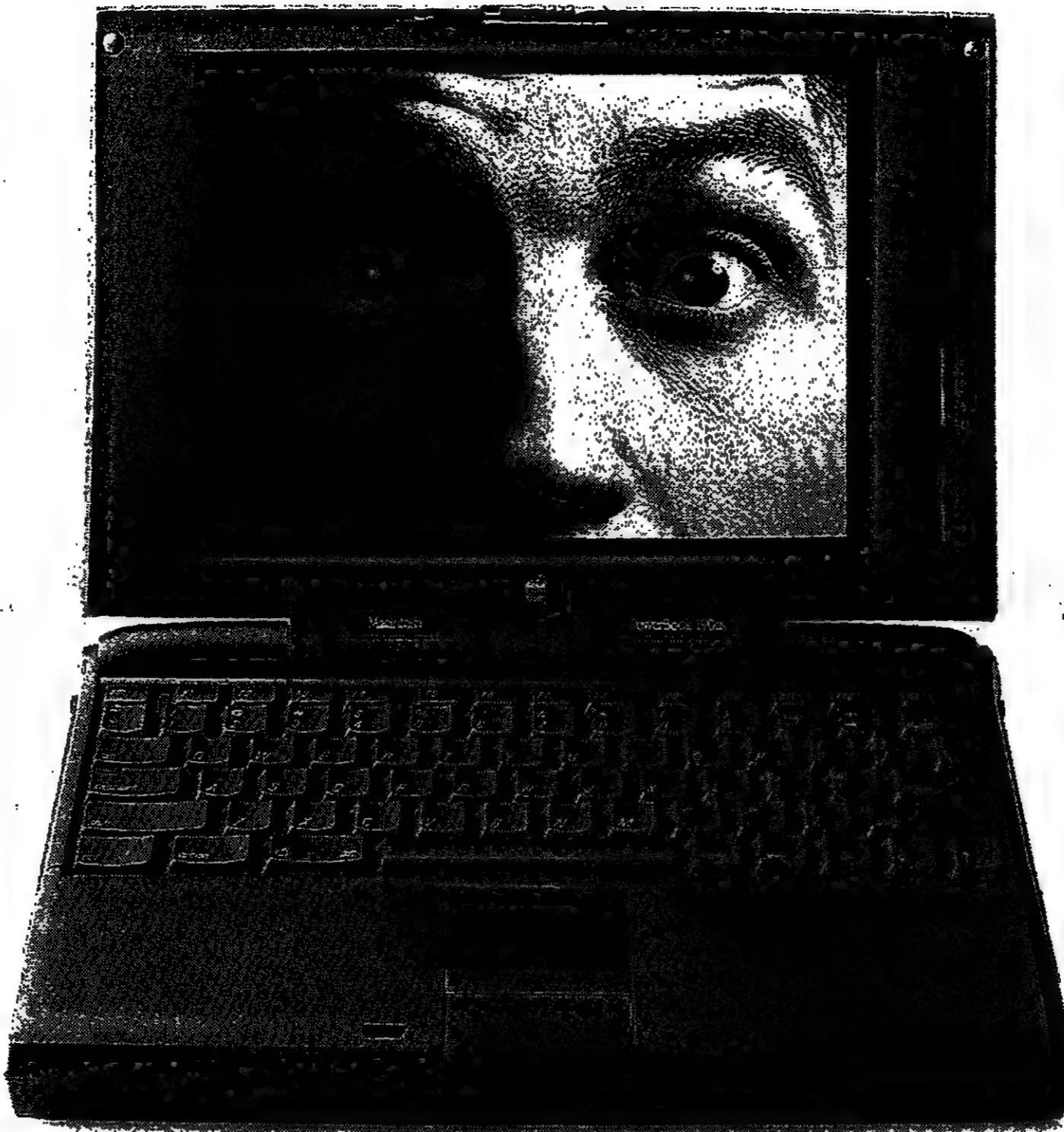
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RIDDLE  
ON POLITICS

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# Karadzic appears on TV in defiance of Dayton accord

FROM STACY SULLIVAN IN SARAJEVO

SATISFIED that he had outmanoeuvred Carl Bildt, the international mediator, in the latest game of cat-and-mouse diplomacy, Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, has begun to make television appearances lambasting the international community for trying to unseat him.

The Serb Democratic Party has voted unanimously to nominate Dr Karadzic, twice indicted for war crimes by the international tribunal in The Hague, as its presidential candidate in Bosnian elections on September 14.

Both acts are breaches of the Dayton accords as well as subsequent agreements brokered by Mr Bildt, but they are representative of consistent Serb determination to undermine the fragile peace process.

Under the Dayton peace plan, indicted war criminals are prohibited from holding or running for public office, and under an agreement brokered

by Mr Bildt in May Dr Karadzic is prohibited from being seen or heard in public.

In spite of Dr Karadzic's disregard for the Dayton accord and for Mr Bildt, the international representative spent most of yesterday in Pale meeting the Bosnian Serb leadership. Unwilling to admit that he had again been duped by the renegade leader, Mr Bildt continued to insist that Dr Karadzic had relinquished his presidential powers, even though the Bosnian Serb leader and Biljana Plavsic, his supposed replacement, have said the indicted war criminal retains the title of President.

"We've been informed that all powers and all the functions of the presidency of the Republika Srpska have been transferred to Mrs Plavsic in accordance with the provisions of the Republika Srpska constitution," Mr Bildt said.

Dr Karadzic has not yet accepted the SDS presidential nomination, and sources close to his cabal of hardliners in Pale said the renegade leader would probably decline, owing to pressure from the international community and Belgrade. However, because the fugitive has been permitted to flout the will of the international community, a decision by him to run in the election would not come as a



William Perry, the American Defence Secretary, meets US troops serving with the international Bosnia peace force at an air base in Tuzla, Hungary, yesterday

## US plans military base in Hungary

THE Clinton Administration, which has insisted that American troops will leave the former Yugoslavia at the end of the year, is reported to be planning to open a permanent training base for NATO-led troops in the region (Even-Ann Prentice and Tom Rhodes write). The move is bound to infuriate Russia and fuel Americans' fears of long-term US involvement in the region.

America is negotiating to lease a large swath of land around Peć and possibly at other sites in Hungary near the border with Serbia and Croatia. The Budapest re-

gime is reported to be delighted at the prospect, believing that the presence of US troops would smooth its path in the Partnership for Peace with Nato.

William Perry, the American Defence Secretary, was in Budapest yesterday, holding talks with Hungarian ministers about the future of the Nato-led Implementation Force in the former Yugoslavia. Ifor.

The European Union and the United Nations have felt increasingly that an international presence is needed in the former Yugoslavia for far longer than December.

surprise to many seasoned observers in Bosnia. In his television address, Dr Karadzic equated the international community's attempts to unseat him as part of a conspiracy directed against the Serb people as a whole.

"If they [the international community] believed in their thesis that the leadership is extreme and the people moderate... they would let elec-

tions proceed in a democratic way," Dr Karadzic said. "But they know that the people are determined to have their own country and oppose any forced mixing with others... That is why they will try everything so that the SDS does not win."

Dr Karadzic's attempt to equate his fate with the common Serb people seems to be working. The louder the international community clamours

for the resignation of the Serb leader, the more ordinary people are inclined to back him.

"Radovan Karadzic is a great defender of the Serb people," said Dusko Delpar, a 45-year-old man working at Pale's central market. "I feel like it is him and me together. I do not know why the world is putting all this pressure on Karadzic."

## Dracula fans to celebrate author's stake in a world legend

FROM SEAN HILLIN  
IN BUCHAREST

GOTHIC literature specialists and vampiropologists have unearthed plans for what is expected to be the largest celebration yet in honour of Bram Stoker, the Irish architect of Count Dracula's dark deeds.

With the centennial of the classic book's publication approaching, Dracula followers in Dublin, Whitby, New York and, of course, Transylvania have lifted the lid on a range of activities to mark the achievements of Stoker, whose book has never been out of print with editions in more than 50 languages, including Japanese and Gaelic.

Thanks to the co-operation of members of Dracula clubs worldwide, special literary, cultural and historical congresses and gala Dracula balls will be held, with the largest taking place in the United States. Jeanne Youngson, founder of the Count Dracula Fan Club in New York, said those invited include Christopher Lee, remembered for his film role as Dracula. Miss Youngson's club is the largest in the world, with more than 5,000 members.

In honour of the Irish writer and one-time theatre critic, a public park in Clonard, Dublin, has just been renamed Bram Stoker Park and mystery-horror walks of the city are

being launched. Dennis McIntyre and Leslie Shepherd, leaders of the Bram Stoker International Summer School, have unveiled plans for a permanent Stoker museum and persuaded the Irish postal service to produce a commemorative stamp.

"It is really long past time that full recognition was given to the accomplishments of Stoker," said Mr McIntyre, a teacher.

To give the centennial celebration plans a suitable send-off, Vincent Hillier, an author, has offered a reward of £5,000 in gold for anyone who takes him a vampire.

Clive Leatherdale, a British author and owner of Desert Island Books, said: "It is a shame Stoker's work is

considered pop culture by the literary elite when it is so well accepted in the United States and elsewhere in literary and academic circles."

Fresh stabs at merchandising by various groups have produced a range of Dracula items, and tours are being organised to the sites of Vlad Tepe, the Romanian hero who impaled enemies on wooden stakes and, in part, inspired Stoker's character.

Stoker published *Dracula* in April 1897, but his wife, Florence, sold the working notes for less than £5 in 1913. Since then, directors, actors and writers have been counting their blessings and immense profits from films about the Cursed One.



Christopher Lee invited to centennial ball in New York

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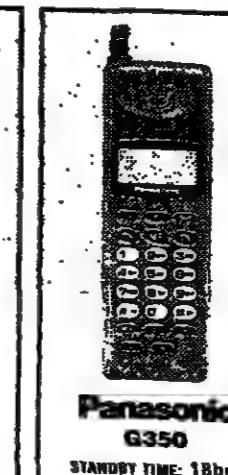
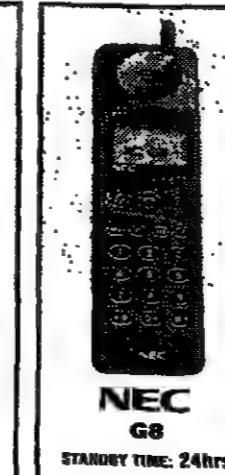
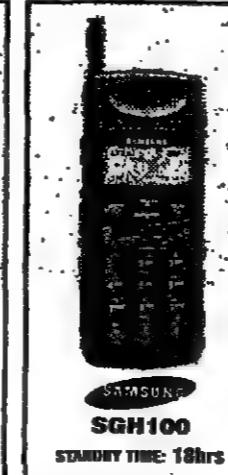
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## COMMENTARY

that he will speak on behalf of the military on behalf of Nato is still the desire of many staff officers.

A Kremlin-driven decision to end Soviet control agency as unrepresentative. Mr Gorbachev would make for a shift in relationship which may be reflected in Moscow's actions.

In a long, drawn-out debate, Communists could be the ones to win the argument. Mr Yeltsin has been won over by Gennadi Zyuganov, the Com-

munist Party candidate.

Experts issued a warning, however, that much would depend on the turnout of voters today, a public holiday.

Unpredictable factors ranging from the weather to the allure of the countryside and the extent of voter apathy could decide the margin between the two candidates.

A high turnout above 60 per cent seems certain to give Mr Yeltsin a comfortable victory. Anything near 50 per cent would favour Mr Zyuganov, who has a dedicated following of about one-third of the population.

Under Russia's electoral laws campaigning is forbidden on the eve of elections, a rule that suited Mr Yeltsin, who has virtually disappeared from public view for the past week because of ill-health. He



A Communist supporter argues with an old man at a St Petersburg rally in the run-up to the second-round poll.

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW



**RUSSIAN ELECTION**

about general election results in Mongolia. "Even the Mongols have given up communism," it said. "Are we more stupid?"

*Izvestia*, the respected evening newspaper, ran an interview with Patriarch Aleksii II, the leader of the Russian Orthodox Church, who has implicitly backed Mr Yeltsin throughout the campaign and this time praised the changes of the past five years.

"We are choosing, not a political personality but a path for the country," he said, echoing similar remarks made by the President in his last televised address to voters on Monday.

Possibly the most important factor working in Mr Yeltsin's favour is his newly General Aleksandr Lebed, the former paratrooper who came third in the first round of the election and has since been appointed Russia's National Security Adviser.

The gruff former Afghan war veteran again beat the nationalist drum during a press conference yesterday, vowing to crack down on foreigners coming into Russia and to curb the spread of religious cults.

Although he did not mention the election, the latest example of his tough talking may be enough to persuade most of his 11 million voters to switch their allegiance to Mr Yeltsin.

□ Grozny: Chechens and Russian servicemen cast their ballots yesterday, but an explosion disrupted voting in the Chechen capital. Officials said that 16 per cent of Chechens took part, while turnout among the military was traditionally high, about 98 per cent.

The blast shattered windows in a block of flats near the main government offices in Grozny and injured several tenants, Tass said.

Voting began a day early in Chechnya because of the 19-month-old war between Russian troops and Chechen separatists. The polls will stay open today when voters elsewhere in Russia go to cast their ballots. (AP)

## Poll jitters afflict the nouveaux riches

BY RICHARD BEESTON

IN THE leafy northern suburbs of Moscow the peace is disturbed only by the sound of builders erecting new mansions for the nouveaux riches or the roar of a foreign spokesman.

While the rest of rural Russia may be turning out today in their millions to pack

### THE ELITE

Gennadi Zyuganov, the Communist Party candidate for the presidency, the village of Zhukovka, Russia's answer to Beverly Hills, is guaranteed to remain true-blue Yeltsin territory.

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His views were echoed among the business, political and cultural elite whose BMWs and Range Rovers vie for space in the tiny village market, which once only sold home-grown vegetables but now offers everything from caviar to French wines.

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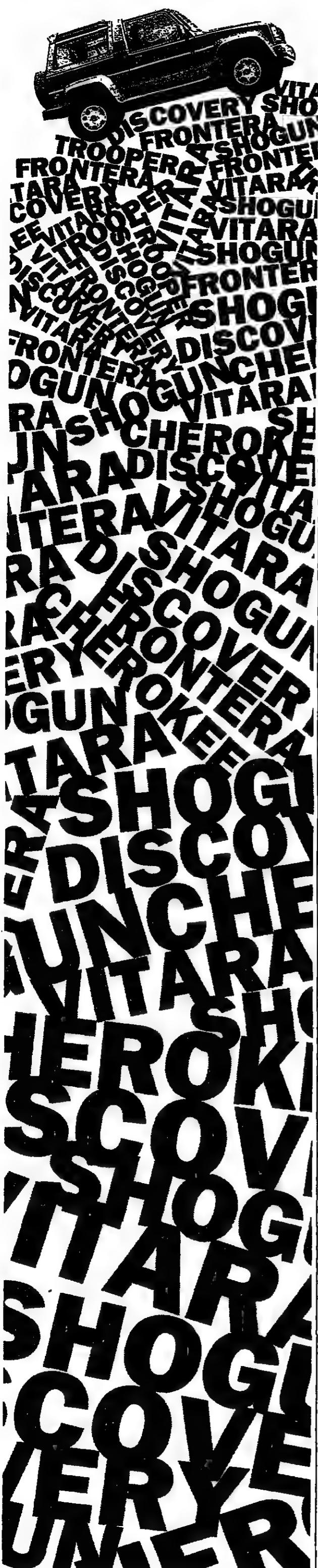
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## Corsica blast raises fears of mainland campaign

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

**TERRORISM** returned to Corsica this week when a car bomb exploded in a popular resort on the Mediterranean island, killing one militant nationalist and seriously injuring two others.

The attack, the latest chapter in a long-running feud between rival separatist groups, comes hard on the heels of nationalist threats to launch a terrorist campaign on mainland France unless demands for greater autonomy are met.

The bomb, planted in a rented car and triggered by remote control, exploded on a street in the port of Bastia on Monday.

The target, Charles Pieri, deputy head of the Cuncalo Nazionalista, the legal front for the outlawed Corsican National Liberation Front (Historic Wing), lost an eye and suffered multiple wounds.

He was a founder member of the Front, from which the Historic Wing broke away. The two groups are bitterly opposed, and the rivalry

between them and other factions within the nationalist movement are complicated by clan warfare and ancient personal vendettas going far beyond mere political differences over Corsican status.

Pierre Lorenzi, a member of the Cuncalo leadership, was killed and a third nationalist, Dominique Renucci, was seriously wounded. Nine bystanders were injured, including a boy, 14, and two elderly people.

Six weeks ago M Pieri, 46, warned that the Front, the most violent of the armed separatist factions, would extend its terror campaign to France unless Paris agreed to grant greater independence to Corsica.

Failure to meet nationalist demands would mean "dark hours for Corsica and difficult hours for France", he told a French newspaper.

The feud between rival nationalist clans has claimed the lives of 15 people since 1995, but Monday's attack marks a sharp escalation in violence on



A victim of a remote-controlled car bomb that killed a Corsican nationalist leader is carried from the site of the blast in Bastia

the island. Hitherto militants have targeted individuals, empty buildings and government offices at night. This week's attack, in broad daylight on a crowded street, indicates a move towards more extreme tactics, police said.

A top magistrate was sent to Corsica from Paris to head an investigation, along with the elite French anti-terror squad RAID, as the Interior Ministry vowed to track down those responsible for "this odious act".

Corsican politicians said the attack on such a senior figure amounted to a declaration of war and said this would lead to further violence.

The Front has been holding secret talks with French government officials, and before this week's attack, M Pieri told *Le Monde* newspaper he believed the group could still hammer out a peace agreement with Paris.

"If it does not, the Front will most likely take its action to the mainland," he said.

The attacks could be made against ministries and administrative offices in Paris, M Pieri said.

In March, for the first time in the 20-year conflict, the violence spread to the capital when the Paris home of a journalist on *Liberation* newspaper and an expert on Corsican affairs was peppered with machinegun fire.

A survey conducted earlier this year found that just 61 per cent of French people thought the Mediterranean island and birthplace of Napoleon should remain French, while 24 per cent said it should be granted full independence.

□ **Bordeaux:** A Basque separatist group based in France called Iparretarak, claimed responsibility yesterday for a bomb blast and two failed attacks in southwest France in recent weeks. (Reuters)

## Saudi terrorism threat as Rifkind holds talks

FROM MICHAEL BINION IN JEDDAH

SENIOR Saudi officials are reported to have received fixed threats of new attacks against the kingdom unless dissidents are freed.

The faxes were sent to King Fahd's secretary, Turki al-Faisal, the head of Saudi intelligence, and Prince Nayef, the Minister of the Interior.

Officials are concerned that the people making the threats appear to have the unlisted fax numbers of the most senior men in charge of fighting terrorism in the kingdom.

Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, could not yesterday confirm these reports, which were not raised during discussions after he arrived in Jeddah. However, he expressed confidence in Saudi Arabia's ability to protect British as well as American troops in the kingdom.

The Saudis have expressed strong interest in sweeping British proposals to introduce a United Nations instrument denying political asylum to anyone in any way involved in terrorism. Crown Prince Abdullah, the First Deputy Prime Minister, and Prince Saud, the Foreign Minister, were briefed in detail on this plan

by Mr Rifkind, who conveyed the determination of world leaders at last week's G7 summit to step up international co-operation to eliminate the scourge of terrorism.

The British plan, which will be put to the UN General Assembly in September, proposes an addition to the 1951 UN convention on refugees.

Mr Rifkind said: "We do not believe when this was introduced that it was intended that people should use the convention in an improper way."

The Foreign Secretary said Britain and Saudi Arabia were determined to eradicate terrorism. This meant increased co-operation between all countries and an attempt to break links between terrorist groups. He also outlined to Saudi leaders the Government's plans to broaden the definition of conspiracy so that, if an inquiry led by Lord Lloyd is accepted, exiles in Britain could be prosecuted for plotting terrorist activities in their home countries.

Mr Rifkind made clear that such legislation would deter men such as Muhammad al-Masari, the dissident Islamist physicist, from coming to Britain.

**Net is in fashion for a top designer**

BY BEN MACINTYRE

FASHION models will strut on to the information superhighway next week when Yves Saint-Laurent unveils his autumn-winter collection directly on to the Internet for the first time. Pierre Bergé, the company chairman, announced yesterday.

The fashion industry has become infatuated with pirated photographs of collections appearing on the computer net, so Saint-Laurent has decided to go one better by providing the service himself.

On July 11, at the same moment that Saint-Laurent reveals his 1996-97 haute couture collection in Paris, fashion-conscious computer buffs will be able to go online in "real" time to witness parts of the show.

"You can't turn your back on progress, ignore the mod-

The Yves Saint-Laurent site is accessible at <http://fashionline.worldmedia.fr/YSL/>



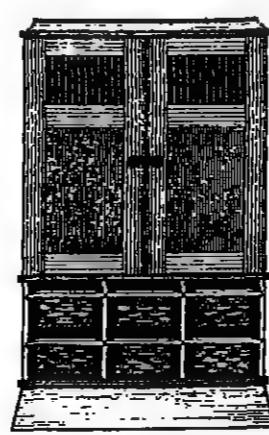
ern world and technology," M Bergé said, adding that haute couture has long been prey to rip-off artists. "They've been doing it for years via the TV photos. This will make a difference of 24 hours."

The designer is offering three five-minute segments from the collection, as well as stories about the designer's life. The online service provider World Media Live has said it expects 150,000 "hits" — visits by viewers to the World Wide Web site — on the day of the show.

"You can't turn your back on progress, ignore the mod-

The Yves Saint-Laurent site is accessible at <http://fashionline.worldmedia.fr/YSL/>

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مكتبة الأهل

THE TIMES WEDNESDAY JULY 3 1996

# Double life sentences for Menendez brothers

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

THE Menendez brothers, who killed their parents in 1989, were yesterday sentenced by a California court to life in prison, with no chance of parole.

Lyle, 28, and Erik Menendez, 25, demonstrated little reaction when they heard Judge Stanley Weisberg accept the recommendation of the jury and pass two consecutive life terms on each at Van Nuys Superior Court, Los Angeles. Throughout the case's two murder trials, watched by a grimly fascinated America, the two showed little emotion, and yesterday was no exception.

However, when the sentence was announced the brothers' aunt, listening from the public gallery, broke into tears and there was a gasp of dismay from Anna Eriksson, a pen pal of Lyle Menendez who in the course of writing to him in prison fell in love with the murderer. She, dressed still in bridal white, had hoped to marry Menendez in a courtroom wedding on Monday, but the ceremony was stopped at the eleventh hour when a judge ruled that public funds should not be used for such a marriage.

Life imprisonment was widely expected for the brothers, who shot their 45-year-old businessman father, Jose Menendez, and his ex-model wife, Kitty, at their family's Beverly Hills home. They had hoped

to get their hands on their father's fortune.

They will have a chance to appeal, but initial remarks from their lawyer suggested that they will accept the sentencing rather than persist with a legal fight which comprised two murder trials. In the first trial twin juries were unable to reach verdicts, but in April the second trial ended with a single jury deciding that the brothers were guilty.

The handsome and well-educated duo maintained that they were sexually abused by their father, who had been a leading swimmer and who fled Fidel Castro's Cuba to make his fortune in the pop music recording world. They

claimed to have acted out of self-defence, and said that their mother had done little to help them when they were being mistreated by their father. Later they claimed that she, too, had preyed on their young sons.

Friends of Mr and Mrs Menendez described, instead, a couple who simply sought to exert discipline on their two young sons.

The couple died from

wounds inflicted by a 12-bore shotgun. The two young men claimed that they had returned home that evening to find their parents dead and they were initially treated as grieving sons, even reading tributes to the murdered

couple at their funeral. It was only when they started to spend their father's money that they started to excite the suspicions of the police. A statement by a former mistress of Lyle Menendez's psychiatrist later proved vital in the case. While standing at the door of Dr Jerome Ozid's treatment room, she heard Lyle state he was responsible for the murders.

Later, Erik Menendez said of the shootings: "I just fired this gun, this stupid big gun. All I can remember is firing. There was lots of smoke... real eerie." The word "eerie" was also used by veteran police officers on the case who said that they had never known killers so adept at falsifying emotions and alibi, or known a case so bitter.

David Donn, a member of the prosecution team, said yesterday: "It is a very fair sentence and certainly one that fits the crime."

His satisfaction was in marked contrast to Leslie Abramson, the Menendez defence lawyer, who appeared close to tears after the sentencing. She said that in the course of the case she had come to regard the brothers as "part of a large extended family" and described them as "wonderful people". She intended to stay in close contact with Erik and Lyle, adding: "The legal part is over, but the human part continues."

Erik, left, and Lyle Menendez, who were found guilty of murdering their parents in a case that riveted America

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**Check it out**

**S**trictly for the beautiful people, Valentino's sultry designs have never required, or deserved, much underwear. So what can have persuaded the Italian designer to bring out support pants? The sight of a sagging bottom bulging through one of his creations? Who knows. But we promise this is true: Valentino Intimo skin-tone knickers with support panels are now available from Selfridges and Harrods, priced £30 a pair.

**A bag with bite**

**D**espite Euro '96, Marie Helvin's party at the Halcyon last Wednesday was packed with A-list celebrities. But who was the blonde woman with the barking handbag? No one seemed to know. She came prepared to make an impression, with the ultimate needn't-have accessory — a handbag that looks like a shih-tzu dog, designed by society favourite Lulu Guinness. Whenever a guest approached, the mystery blonde broke into a high-pitched yapping. Sadly, her party-piece did not have quite the desired effect. Several party-goers, including Brian Eno, were seen heading swiftly in the opposite direction.

**Join the twin-set**

**F**irst the tweed little dress. Now the tweed little twin-set. Tocca, worn by Helena Christensen, is extending its range. Cardies and twin-sets are soon to be available from Shop, in Soho, where the likes of Kylie and Björk get their creations.



Helena Christensen: a Tocca tweed twin-set

**TRIED AND TESTED**

**L**ong-haul flights can wreak havoc on the legs and face, causing dehydration and discomfort. We tested five refreshing sprays en route to New York.

■ CRABTREE & Evelyn, Aloe Vera Cooling Foot Spray, £5.25/75ml. Packaging: 6/10. Stylish metal can, but only works at particular angle. Scent: 6/10. Pleasant. Total: 12/20.

■ BODY SHOP Foot Spray, £2.50/100ml. Packaging: 6/10. Unfussy soft plastic bottle. Leaked slightly at top. Scent: 8/10. Refreshing. Total: 14/20.

■ RALPH LAUREN Polo Sport Woman. Finish Coolessence Body Spray, £22.50/150ml. Available nationwide. Packaging: 7/10. Stylish bottle, but poor pump action and spray leaks. Scent: 5/10. Too strong for a plane. Total: 12/20.

■ DECLEOR Arome Floral by Decléor, £9.30/250ml (0171-262 0403). Packaging: 8/10. Simple metal canister, but 250ml is too large for a travel bag. Scent: 6/10. Slightly too floral. Total: 14/20.

■ ESPA Herbal SpaFresh Spray, £10.95/100ml. By mail order or at Spa and treatment centres (01483 454444). Packaging: 9/10. Simple, but glass bottle could be impractical. Scent: 10/10. Light unisex fragrance combining rose and orange water, lavender, peppermint and tea tree oil. Total: 19/20.



**E**ven the Duchess of York now thinks she can be a professional model. From this week *The Times* will be giving ordinary women the opportunity to model the latest clothes. Today Deborah Brett tries on some of the outfits she found in the sales.

**T**owards the end of June, when the credit card is up to its limit and the bank balance hovers between black and red, the summer sales are a tantalising prospect. They shimmer on the horizon, like an oasis in the desert. But, like water in the Sahara, the longed-for goodies may be a mirage.

Why is it that we are so often disappointed by the sales, when only a week before the rails seemed to bulge with covetable clothes?

The first thing to bear in mind is that the sales are not designed for our benefit, but to shift all remaining stock. If that means employing a little trickery then so be it.

While people in the fashion industry often offer advice, they rarely go to the sales themselves. They buy directly from designers at the start of the season, then go to exclusive sample sales, when garments worn by models on shoots are sold off at ridiculously low prices.

However, if you're streetwise, it is possible to find great outfitts at good prices. The key is to apply the same discernment as you normally would, and to think the prices through.

Sue Rowe, a young designer, is one of the few industry insiders who actually goes to the sales. She has evolved what can only be described as a strategy for tackling the shops at sale time.

"As a designer, I'm always watching what everyone else is up to," she says. "I go round the shops every fortnight, and I can tell you that a lot of shops bring out old stock for the first few days. High street chains are the worst."

"My strategy is to go at the very beginning, but not necessarily to buy then. I look for things I've seen at full price, then I see if there are lots of the particular thing I want. If there are, then I wait for the price to drop. I'm really looking for 50 per cent reductions."

"I avoid shops that cram the rails. You can't see anything properly. If I'm in a high street shop then I check the labels carefully to make sure the clothes aren't damaged."

This year, Ms Rowe is looking out for the Vivienne Westwood sale and the Liberty sale, where she hopes to buy Helmut Lang. As a rule, however, she avoids instore concessions. "The prices are lower in designers' own shops."

The conventional advice — which Ms Rowe also gives — is to buy basics in versatile colours like black and white. But the sales are also a good time to buy something frivolous which would seem a sin at full price. But while it's not a good idea to spend lots on voguish colours there is no point being more even more conservative than normal.

The sales are also good for luxury items that will last. Paul Hamilton rarely goes to sales, but makes one exception: "I go to the Harrods sale for men's V-neck cashmere sweaters."

Finally, don't worry if you miss the start of the sale. Reductions are often staggered.

GRACE BRADBERRY, STYLE EDITOR



**DEBORAH BRETT, 23, has just left Central St Martin's College of Art. She set out to buy three outfitts in the sales. Two are investment buys, the third is a frivolous outfit for high summer.**

**The Paddy Campbell suit is a classic — but it's also incredibly well-cut and has a bit of twist to it. The dress is figure-hugging, but the slit is skillfully placed to make it wearable. Incidentally, it's a fantastic reduction.**

**"Less dressy, the Joseph trouser suit is good for similar reasons. It looks simple — but the one button and the cut make it incredibly sexy. With a hat and scarf it would work at a wedding. It's also a great work outfit.**

**"The zebra shirt and trousers are really a bit of fun, but they'd see you through several summer parties."**

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### SMART SALES

Brompton Rd, SW3. Current reductions from 30% to 60% (July 4).

Manolo Blahnik, 49-51 Old Church St, SW3. Reductions from 45% (August 2).

Patrick Cox, 8 Symons Street, SW3. Initial reductions up to 40% (July 8).

Margaret Howell, 29 Beauchamp Pl, London SW3, and branches. (July 6).

Pied à Terre, 31 Old Bond St, W1 and nationwide. Reductions up to 50% (July 12).

Russell & Bromley, 24-25 New Bond St, W1 and nationwide. Reductions from 30-50% (July 12).

MaxMara, 32 Sloane St, SW1. (July 9). 153 New Bond St, W1. From 25-30%.

Nicole Farhi, Sloane St, SW1. (starts today). Initial reductions of 25%.

Paddy Campbell, Gees Court, St Christopher's Pl, W1. (starts today).

Paul Smith, 40-44 Floral St, WC2. (August 1). Initial reductions of 30%, plus samples at larger reductions.

Prada, Sloane St, SW1. Reductions of 30% (50% off last season's stock).

• All sales have started unless date is shown

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Rachel Campbell-Johnston on the alimony culture

# Divorce, money and great expectations

**I**t was once said that you can never really know a woman until you have met her in court. Certainly few who witnessed the coy 20-year-old Diana darting soft-focus glances at her bridegroom prince would have guessed that our national fairytale would end with a composed 35-year-old toughly negotiating the terms of her divorce.

If the Princess of Wales gets all that she is said to be holding out for — a multi-million pound settlement as well as the retention of a royal title and a home in Kensington Palace — she will prove an inspiration to all young women who feel maltreated by the powerful, wealthy men who take trophy wives.

What her predicted settlement will prove is that the discarded woman is not necessarily defenceless but can emerge stronger — or at least much richer — than the husband she has left behind. It is a lesson whose principles are fraught with corruption.

Of course a man should be made responsible for the woman whom he made his lawful wedded wife. Provision of adequate alimony is only to be expected and never more so than in cases where children are at issue. It is lamentable that the Child Support Agency should have been allowed to fail.

The splitting of a pension, especially when a marriage has been of long duration, seems often to be only fair. A woman should not be forced to remain locked to her former husband until the time that he chooses to retire.

But in the magic circle of the rich and famous the marriage game is played for high stakes. A wedding at times appears little more than a necessary formality undertaken before securing the lucrative divorce. It is for the munificent alimony payments that the sweet, and seductive, set honey traps. Marriage has become big business. Girls who walk in beauty like the night are attracted like moths to the glitter of bachelor gold.

Bienvenida Buck set sail from our shores last week, evanescent as the bubbles in a glass of faux champagne. But she left a few cultured pearls of wisdom behind in her memoirs. "I realised I had two options," she candidly declared. "To work for years and years scrimping and saving, or else look for a shortcut. The only one I could envisage was to become a woman for a man who had already made a fortune, and to use that relationship to meet successful people."

A short while ago a pitiable, but extremely prosperous, acquaintance snuffed his sorrows onto my sleeve. He married a girl whom he first met in a nightclub — winsome, willowy and half his age. He never suspected that anything might be less than perfect until the first night of their Alpine honeymoon. He snored, suffering from the high altitude. She banished him to the bath to sleep and the next morning muttered darkly about divorce through a froth of toothpaste.

Well, Sheridan did write that "it's safest in matrimony to begin with a little aversion", but things, according to his account, never got better. A year later she jetted off alone on a Caribbean holiday pleading fatigue. The phonecalls soon stopped and he heard nothing except from one of his wife's friends who called round to pick up her chinchilla fur. He consulted a lawyer, a personal friend, but without success. "I can't advise you," the lawyer said. "Your wife has been my client now for more than a year."

After the divorce finally went through, the girl was so opulently catered for that she never returned to her job as a secretary in an advertising agency. Marriage had merely been to her a less strenuous way of getting ahead than any long haul up the rungs of a career.

There is big money at stake in the divorce league. Predictions as to exactly how much are difficult to make. Part 2 of the 1973 Matrimonial Causes Act does not provide an objective, let alone a formula. Rather it specifies a list of matters to be taken into consideration.

In the 1980s, Amanda Jane Atter received capitalised periodic payments amounting to some £20,000 to help her adjust to being single after only seven weeks of marriage. Donatella Flick emerged an estimated £52 million richer from her marriage to the heir of Daimler-Benz. In cold financial terms, the Duchess of York's reputed £2 million settlement barely notches a mark on the "big divorce" scale.

Wealthy men fall constant prey to women on the prowl who plan their seductions like a military campaign. Lady Buck was not shy of sharing the secrets of an advanced form of warfare never wear a dress which blends with the tablecloth — if necessary check the shade of a restaurant's napery in advance; offer a man a drink from your champagne glass, turning it beforehand so that he samples your lipstick smear — apparently it is like a little kiss. Have a spare stocking to hand sprinkled with perfume. This can be pressed at the perfect moment into your paramour's grasp.

Attention to details like these can earn a girl her penthouse, yacht and couture wardrobe. It is hard to see where the buck stops. Wise millionaires hire private investigators to research the credentials of prospective girlfriends. Others, with egos flattered, fall for lethal charms. More often than not the fine they pay for the joy of matrimony is alimony. "Once a wife, always a wife," was at one time the paradigm set by

family law. Divorce was seen as a breach of contract, and settlements seen as a form of damages designed to put the promisee in the position she would have enjoyed had the contract been honoured. It is a good thing that it is now possible to abandon this. In 1984 a new Matrimonial and Family Proceedings Act paved the way for the courts to look instead at reasonable needs.

The "reasonable needs" of the wealthy are often argued to be different from those of more ordinary families. Maya Flick declared that the upkeep of her labrador required £4,000 a year, while the annual replenishment of her drinks cabinet amounted to £5,000. It was right that the court should have caved over this.

In a modern world which struggles towards equal opportunities for the sexes a woman should not be allowed to cling leech-like to her former husband throughout his life. Surely it would be better to see marriage as an equal partnership, not an unequal relationship in which each member jostles to grab whatever they can.

**K**atina Dart, who was awarded £10 million after her divorce from the tycoon who made polystyrene boxes for hamburgers, battled in the appeal courts for another £100 million in payout. Yesterday it was announced that she had lost her case. Her original award was considered sufficient to keep her in the style to which she was accustomed.

But afterwards England's senior woman judge, Lady Justice Butler-Sloss, suggested that the courts may be somewhat over-modest in their awards. She hinted that at some future point this would change.

At a time when the institution of matrimony is severely threatened, when one in three marriages fail, any measures which encourage those who cynically seek profit seems ill-advised.



Diana in love — who would have guessed the doe-eyed girl would become a tough legal negotiator?

**H**e had waited 12 gruelling months for his freedom. But when it finally came via a brief message from the Home Office, Abiodun Igbiniudu, a Nigerian asylum-seeker, chose to remain in his detention cell for one more night.

Mr Igbiniudu, 26, an engineering student who has spent the past year pleading his case from Campsfield Detention Centre in Oxfordshire, could have walked out of the gates

## A long march to freedom in Britain

A Nigerian asylum-seeker's victory raises doubts over new immigration laws. Carol Midgley investigates

immediately after Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, had an about-turn on Monday afternoon and granted him exceptional leave to remain in Britain. Instead, he chose to remain to attend a church service in the centre early yesterday where he gave quiet thanks for his new life.

Mr Igbiniudu, 26, an engineering student who has spent the past year pleading his case from Campsfield Detention Centre in Oxfordshire, could have walked out of the gates

genuine torture victims are being shipped back to Nigeria?

Mr Igbiniudu arrived at Heathrow airport on June 19 last year on a Balkan Airlines flight, clutching a false passport and claiming to be an activist for the Campaign for Democracy who had demonstrated against the military regime of General Abacha.

As the proprietor of a mini-supermarket and a student at the local university, he worked to help organise demonstrations and circulate leaflets.

As soon as his face became known to the police the arrests



Igbiniudu: free at last

When fellow students ambushed the prison he managed to escape and was smuggled to freedom. But when he arrived in Britain, he ran into a problem — officials did not believe his story.

The Home Secretary refused him asylum and his application for leave to remain was rejected by the Immigration Service. He appealed, but in October the Special Adjudicator found against him. "I do not find the appellant a credible witness," she wrote. "In particular, I do not accept his account of having been arrested on various occasions and having been tortured."

Deportation was edging nearer but Mr Igbiniudu's support campaign was beginning to gather pace, with more than 40 MPs, and bishops and peers lending their weight.

Mr Igbiniudu was lucky that Mr Hurd is the constituency MP of the Rev John Searle, a visitor to Campsfield, who took up his case. Mr Hurd intervened last Christmas, so that the first deportation date was stayed.

**B**ill Bernster, an investigative journalist, uncovered documentation from Nigeria appearing to back up his story. Mr Bernster was in contact with Sir Richard Doll, Emeritus Professor of Medicine at Oxford and a patron of the Medical Foundation for the Care of Victims of Torture, who arranged for Mr Igbiniudu to be examined first by Dr Michael Hobbs, a psychiatrist and consultant psychotherapist at Oxford, and then by Christopher Bulstrode, Clinical Reader in Trauma and Orthopaedics at Oxford and consultant surgeon at the John Radcliffe Hospital. All agreed that Mr Igbiniudu was telling the truth.

Baroness Williams, the former Shirley Williams, raised his case in the House of Lords to press for an amendment to the Government's new Immigration and Asylum Bill.

Crucially, the Oxford physicians went public — voicing their concern in a letter to *The Times* last month. They wrote that it had only been through a fortunate meeting between medical and journalistic interests that the evidence for this case was produced.

Unlike most the 5,825 Nigerians who came to Britain

at the home of Velda Henman, the Church Council Secretary, where Mr Igbiniudu will stay for a while.

Yesterday Mr Igbiniudu, a Roman Catholic, said: "They have given me my life. I would have been dead if I had been deported."

Whether Mr Igbiniudu's case will alter the fate of other Nigerian asylum-seekers remains to be seen. Last year the refusal rate for them was 100 per cent.

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# Reform, not revolution, in the Lords

Tories cannot ignore Opposition plans, says Robert Skidelsky

**T**here is a strong possibility that the House of Lords will cease to exist in its present form after the next general election. Both main Opposition parties propose sweeping changes in its composition. The Liberal Democrats want to replace the Lords by a wholly or largely elected second chamber. The Labour Party's long-term plans are less clear. But as a first step, Labour would abolish the right of hereditary peers to sit in the Lords.

The silence of the Conservatives in the face of these Opposition plans is deafening. The party which exists to defend the constitution offers no explicit defence of the House of Lords as it now is; nor does it propose any alternative scheme of reform. By their silence, Conservatives give the impression that they have lost the argument before it has started. Yet there is a Conservative tradition which can be applied to the Lords, based on three principles: it is wrong to destroy what works for the sake of abstract principle; it is right to redress justified and widely held grievances; and reform should build on precedent.

Consider first the arguments for reform based on abstract right. It is wrong in principle, it is said, that anyone should sit in Parliament solely by accident of birth. The "accident of birth" is also the accident of history. The Conservative approach is not to sweep away historical survivals in the name of reason, but to ask: does the constitution of which the hereditary peers form a part work well or badly? The Opposition parties argue that it is wrong in principle for unelected persons — whether hereditary or life peers — to have a say in the making of laws. Conservatives should ask: is there anything in our constitution which allows unelected legislators to thwart the will of elected representatives? The answer is clearly "no", since the veto power of the Lords was abolished in 1911. The House of Lords lacks the inclination, as well as the power, to overturn "mandated" legislation. Its functions of revision — plus a reserve power of one year's delay, last exercised in 1949 — are useful, not obstructive.

In short, Conservatives should fight on Burke's grounds of tradition, convenience and expediency. They should not allow the Opposition to get away with the assertion that the present system is "obviously" indefensible, but should force them to argue for the reforms they actually propose.

Two such arguments are worth attention. The first is put forward by those who want a stronger second chamber to counter the "elective dictatorship" of the House of Commons, and claim that only an elected second chamber could legitimately demand extra powers. There are three things wrong with this. First, upper Houses, whether elected or not, are always subordinate to lower Houses, except in the special case of federal constitutions, where they serve to defend "states' rights" against central government. We do not have a federal

Lord Skidelsky is a Conservative life peer.

## Off his tree

TENNIS court-sized offices and man-eating would never be enough for Michael Heseltine. Talking to trees is also essential to his wellbeing.

For the first time, the Deputy Prime Minister has admitted that he chats to the trees in the beloved arboretum at his Northamptonshire country home.

His confession appears in this month's *Business Life* magazine: "I totally sympathise with Prince Charles and his relationship with trees," he says. "You have to encourage them. Tell them to pull themselves together."

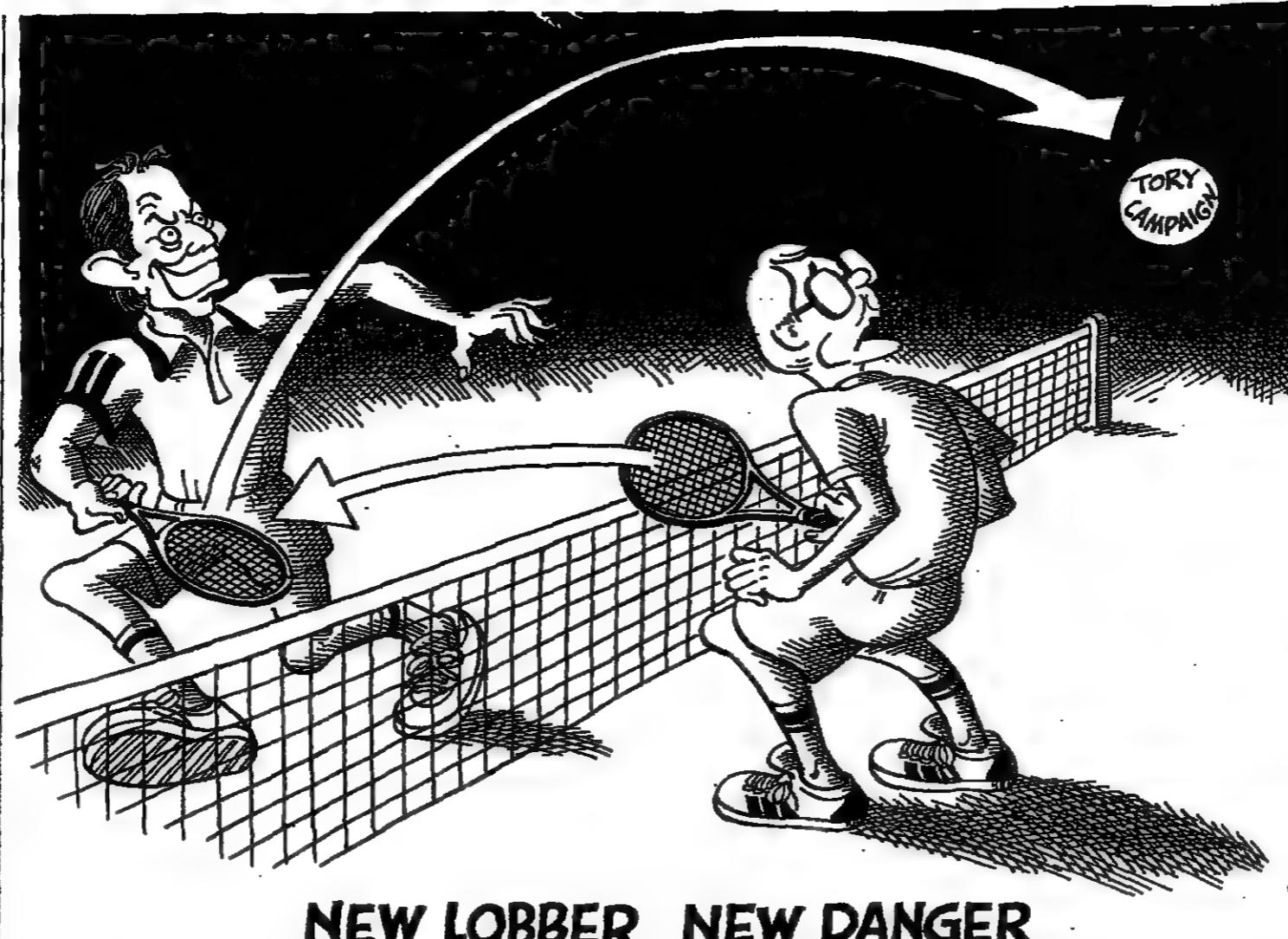
Heseltine knows that his trees, far more than his political career, are his best bet for immortality. At the heart of his collection are what he calls one of the most majestic of British trees: the beech. His gardening ambitions have clearly come a long way since as a boy his grubby hands rotted around his father's flowerbeds.

Unlike his relationships with his fellow politicians and journalists on Radio 4's *Today* programme, he says: "The relationship between me and my trees is very clear. I'm the only one who does the talking."

Dr Dorothy Rowe, the psychologist and author, is delighted by the news: "It's about the most human thing I have heard about him. The rest is all presentation."

## Up the creek

OARS clashed at Henley yesterday as our greatest rowers turned up at their boathouse to find the locks had been changed. Steve Redgrave



NEW LOBBER, NEW DANGER

## No mirror for ministers

Most statesmen used to treat the press with disdain. Mr Hurd still does — but Mr Major is mesmerised

**G**ood man, Douglas Hurd. Sort of chap you would go into a cocktail party with. They say he can drop an ambassador stone dead at 20 paces. But when the time comes to hang up the frock-coat and send the spats round to Oxfam, how does he depart?

Some ministers give farewells speeches in the Commons, brimming with eloquence and bitterness. Some unburden themselves to the Sunday papers. Some write instant memoirs. What is Mr Hurd's Partisan shot?

How does he surprise us?

I should have guessed: a talk on the wireless. A few amusing vignettes for the housewives at 8.40am. How very cucumber sandwich. How very FO. Mr Hurd's series ended on Monday. It has been a delight, a reminder of how good BBC Radio was as it prepares to vanish into the crass mass of television. But where was the sting? "I have decided," said Mr Hurd, "not to write my memoirs at least for a year or two." So what was all this about? Norman Lamont produced a "government in office but not in power". Lord Howe of Aberavon savaged his old leader with a metaphor about batsmen and pads. Surely Mr Hurd would not desert John Major's second-rate Oppidans without a parting kick to its shin?

And then it was. After an erudite passage on Lord Derby, Mr Hurd mused on why today's statesmen are so busy, when their real responsibilities are less. His answer was a jolt: media addiction. As compared with the old days, he said, ministers spend an inordinate amount of time worrying at the press. He implied that this was undignified and absurd. "Ministers free at the media," said Mr Hurd. "A huge amount of time is given to the fretting. The Cabinet may no longer have to worry itself about India, but it worries itself sick about the *Daily Mail*."

Who is fretter-in-chief? In goes the knife. John Major by nature wakes up rather earlier than I do. Mr Hurd opines as if referring to his groom. "It was not unusual to be roused by him denouncing some enormity in a newspaper I had not yet read." It even happened once "when I was snoozing in a remote cottage in Devon". We can sense the rage in the Hurd household. A bell rings in some distant parlour. Jeeves carries the telephone upstairs on a silver tray. The Foreign Secretary in his four-poster is briefly roused from dreams of tiger shooting and Catullus. "Terrifically sorry, sir. The Prime Minister on

the line. He's worried about a story in the *Daily Scum*." Was it for this that the House of Hurd dedicated a life's service to Her Britannic Majesty?

The passage was a deft mix of social condescension and the anger felt by many ministers at Mr Major's cravenness to the press. After a decade in high office, certain newspapers (notably *The Sun*, the *Mail* and the *Telegraph*) still seem to mesmerise him — and as a result less secure colleagues. He reads them night and morning. He personally calls their Editors, not to inform or discuss, but to complain and even to plead. Why are you so horrid to me, he asks.

Most statesmen until recently treated journalists with disdain, leaving them to be entertained in the pub by press officers. When newspaper barons tried hamfistedly to usurp political privilege they did not win. Baldwin trounced Beaverbrook and Rothermere. Wilson trounced Cecil King. The best antidote to a surfeit of newspaper comment is to stop consuming it. Roy Jenkins had his secretary cut references to him from the newspapers, put them in a file and show him only those still worth reading a week later, which was not many. Baroness Thatcher rarely read the papers. If they attacked her she blamed her press secretary: "Poor Bernard has been having a terrible time lately."

Mr Major has become an actor obsessed with his notices. Every morning a Cabinet committee meets on how to counter the distortions and every minister must dance attendance. An acquaintance of mine recently returned to Downing Street and was stunned by the attention devoted to the press. How will this run, is a question regularly asked during policy discussion, obsessively during the recent divorce. Bill Mr Hurd estimates that an extra hour was added to each working day to satisfy Downing Street's craving for coverage. The private offices of some

Simon Jenkins

Cabinet ministers have become de facto press rooms, seeking photo opportunities, press briefings and interviews hour by hour.

All governments must worry about their public face. News is a commodity and its dissemination requires handling. Newspapers set a sort of instant agenda. The competitive and raucous British press may be the embodiment of chaos theory but, as in the theory, it has "strange attractors". Politicians may believe that journalists are immune to the truth, but the same politicians seem to believe that the press is susceptible to the "well-turned half-truth". Hence the current state of half-baked "initiatives" pouring out of departments such as Education, the Home Office and Environment.

I believe government is a victim of a confusion. On the one hand, the press is indeed a medium for passing the Government's message to the electorate. It should be one of many, but newspapers happen to be the one that politicians read. On the other hand, the press is seen as an independent estate of the political realm. It hears evidence, forms judgments and passes sentences. As such it has the opportunity and privilege both to pass on the news and to doctor it. In Bernard Ingham's celebrated phrase, the press can be both sewer and sewage.

The power of the press in the life of politicians is in direct proportion to its monopoly as this sort of confused democratic conduit. That monopoly has strengthened under John Major. What de Tocqueville called the intermediate institutions of democracy have atrophied. The means by which voters once interacted with government, primarily through unions, professional groups and local government, have been eroded. There is scant mechanism for feedback. This is not just a Tory phenomenon. Tony Blair is sweeping aside the traditional means by which a Labour leader

gained consent from his followers. He too is relying on the media. While this works, it works a dream. Who needs the National Executive Committee or the Labour Party conference when you have *The Independent* and *The Guardian* eating out of your hand? Spin-doctor them and the game is in the bag.

Mr Major's experience is that this simply does not work. He has so weakened the Conservative Party in the country — 90 per cent of its activity once focused on local government — as to lose the benefit of its one-time status as a democratic intermediary. He has lost a political buffer zone. When he appeals to the public to receive his message there is no reply, just the dull thud of an opinion poll on the mat.

Critics do not make a play, nor do newspapers win elections. Though the evidence cannot be more than anecdotal, I believe that politicians grossly overrate the influence of the national press in influencing the public's long-term view of policies. The electorate is influenced by what they see, hear and read in the workplace, the school and hospital and in their dealings with government at grass roots. They regard national politics, like Parliament, as a fantasy theatre, a place of synthetic quarrels and cheap point-scoring.

British politicians, unlike their continental or American counterparts, move in ever-decreasing circles. As Mr Hurd remarked in his talk, ministers rarely go to the cinema or theatre. They seldom read outside their subject and have little time for listening and talking to friends, or for private thought. They do not take buses or go shopping. Small wonder the press becomes their sole window on the world, poking its daily report through the bars of their prison cage. They know that the press cannot be terrified with a three-line whip, a sacking or a slashed grant. The press is not part of that leviathan of control, the standardised, cash-limited welfare state. It is random, unfair, malicious, but maddeningly independent. Modern politics has come to treat it as a monopoly surrogate for public opinion, a daily consultant's report on the dealings of government.

It is a monopoly for which newspapers are grossly unsuited. I cannot imagine a worse mirror before which to shave my face each morning. Yet it is the one selected by Mr Major and, it seems, by Mr Blair. Mr Hurd is right to be dismayed.

Alan Coren



■ Have you been goosed at four in the morning?

I would be stretching musicality a bit to describe what Cricklewood has as a dawn chorus. It is more of a dawn bust. Each summer day, just as morning brings an arm back to fling its stone into the Bowl of Light, an ad hoc avian glee club convenes in the sparse urban greenery around my premises and launches into sporadic spasms of whistle and squawk, most of them stonal, and none of them loud enough to disturb even the lightest human sleeper. That I know about our early birds at all is only because I have on occasion been woken by something else, such as a clunking radiator, and caught, above its plangent bong, a beaky descent from beyond the sash.

Until that is, yesterday: when, at 4am, I was torn from sleep by what could only be the blast of a car-horn: doubtless some selfish toad hurtling past and loosing one off to feed his joy upon another's pain. But after I'd fallen back onto the pillow, it honked again, same volume, so it wasn't hurtling past at all, it was standing somewhere and leaving me to lie wondering whether to get up and vent a throatful of spleen upon whoever in the street cut front was doing it — impatient eloper, nervous getaway driver, 24-hour hoover mechanic whatever — until it honked a third time, and I realised it wasn't happening in the street but front at all. It was happening at the rear of the house. There was a car in the back garden. Someone, somehow, must have crashed through the fence, trapping himself behind the wheel, and was now attempting to alert the emergency services by the only means available to him.

And that indeed, after I had crept up, hobbled through to the back of the house, and peered out — thanks to the half-darkness and the sleep-gummed eye — what I very nearly saw. There was an object on the lawn which might well have been some small foreign job, except that where its wheels should have been were — I could just make out — two webbed feet. A small experimental foreign job, perhaps? A little amphibious Japanese number, being secretly tested under cover of British night? But, as I watched, the vehicle uncoiled its neck, threw back its head, and honked again.

It is somewhat unsettling not only to find an enormous goose on your darkling lawn, but to find it honking; because at 4am the only thing you can remember about honking geese is that they alerted Rome to invading Gaul, and though you do not even half-awake, immediately conclude that a raiding party of vengeful French cattlemen is about to sack Cricklewood and make off with its women, you nonetheless cannot help wondering whether some more conventional scallywag might not have breached your defences and even now be going through your spoons.

Downstairs, however, I found all secure. So I went out into the garden to tell the dawn soloist to put a sock in it because some of us were trying to get some sleep. But when I approached, waving my arms, instead of retreating, waving its wings, the goose began waddling towards me, giving off a low staccato warbling, as if accompanying itself on a muted bugle. Now, if one of the things you can't remember about geese at 4am is whether they can break a man's arm with a flick of a wing, or is that swans, you back off; and when I did, the goose lurched past me, hopped up the step and went into the kitchen.

I did not want a goose in my kitchen. Then again, I did not want my arm in plaster. So I did what any coward would do: I made a deal. I took a slice of bread from the fridge, wagged it at the goose, and went back into the garden. Whether it followed me and, passing up the opportunity to break my arm, plucked the slice deftly from my hand, and ate it. And guess what it did then? It put its head on my knee, and let out a low, singularly gentle honk. I did not know what this meant. I do not have fluent Goose, but I have to tell you that, as experiences go, it was a bit special. So special, indeed, that I rather believe it has changed my life.

Which is why I have told this tiny tale: because what we weekly share, you and I, is me, and if my life is changed, you have the right to know. And what you should know today is that I shall never eat *pâté de foie gras* again. Especially not to the sound of trumpets.

Charles and his relationship with trees, he says. "You have to encourage them. Tell them to pull themselves together."

● Sir George Gardiner's Reigate constituency party — a member of which suggested that he be deselected for being too ugly — has been given an award by Martini for trying to make Britain a more beautiful place. Martini's ad campaign suggests ugly people have plastic surgery to be beautiful enough to drink it.

## Swing vote

AS RUSSIANS go to the polls to elect a President today, trapezes will hang motionless and unicycles lie discarded in one corner of Watford. The Moscow State Circus has scrapped rehearsals for the day and erected a polling booth in the ring so that 40 members of the troupe can cast votes in the second round of the elections back home.

"Every year we change the combination because we have lost so much stuff," says Lloyd, the Leander captain, "Normally, Matthew is responsible for the change, but this year we beat him to it. They couldn't get in to shower or change and were more than a little irritated."

Redgrave, despite having won 15 times at Henley, is clearly not a forgiving type. Missing the old regatta, he was asked. Jigging ear in rowlock, he replied "No", flexed a swede-sized muscle and eased off into the sputume.

and Matthew Pinsent, the world and Olympic champions, were home for two days in between training for another Olympic title. When they arrived at their club, Leander, for a 7am outing, they found that the changing room's combination lock had been altered.

"Ivory Lloyd, the Leander captain,

of their insurance companies, Parrotti, Domingo and Carreras must charter individual planes. This Saturday, they sing at Wembley before flying on to complete their 12 dates around the world.

Among their other tour requirements if gross, il piccolo and 'em in-between are accompanied by their own catering company and a caravan of interior designers to smarten up their dressing rooms. Their promoter says, however, that they cost less than pop stars, "because after their performances, they only drink mineral water".

## Love all

WHILE Tim Henman has set female pulses racing at Wimbledon, Belgian men are blubbing into their beer tankards. Their heroine, Sabine Appelmans, 24, beaten by Arantxa Sanchez Vicario, has just been voted the world's "ideal woman" by a Belgian magazine.

Sabine's accolade comes from one of her country's bestsellers, which rates her higher than Claudia Schiffer and Pamela Anderson, as she became the first Belgian to reach the fourth round at Wimbledon since 1975.

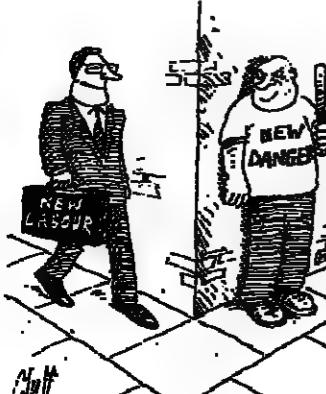
● They may be bestest of friends again, but the Duchess of York's



Belgian belle: Appelmans

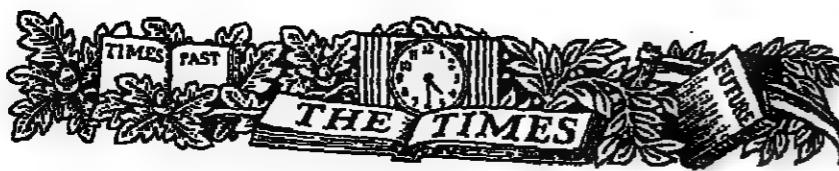
leggy appearance on the cover of *Hellot magazine* is clearly a challenge to the Princess of Wales. Though she only flashes up to the knee, not the dangerous cellulite territory of the upper thigh, the display brings to mind the Duchess's regular putdowns of the Princess when the two were going through a rocky patch. Red hair tossing and leg showing, she would crow: "I've got better legs."

P-H-S



Oars clashed at Henley yesterday as our greatest rowers turned up at their boathouse to find the locks had been changed. Steve Redgrave

كذا من العمل



## OPEN COURTS

Legal aid proposals should improve justice for the deserving

Squaring circles has become the Lord Chancellor's stock in trade. With his family law reforms he sought simultaneously to strengthen marriage and simplify divorce. With the White Paper on legal aid, *Striking the Balance*, Lord Mackay of Clashfern is trying both to control the amount spent while also improving access to justice.

The reforms that Lord Mackay proposes would see the public provision of legal services undergo an upheaval on a similar scale to the changes wrought in the National Health Service. As with those changes, it is possible that Lord Mackay may be able to improve the quality of some services and make measurable efficiency gains but he may also see an unwelcome growth in bureaucracy. The amount spent on legal aid has increased, is increasing and has to be diminished. In 1995-96 it swallowed some £1.4 billion of taxpayers' money, twice as much as five years ago.

The expansion of the current system has been driven by lawyers and this Government's own actions, not least the Police and Criminal Evidence Act. But the situation has been made worse by the opportunism of litigants whose cases have been, in the words of Lord Mackay, "weak, trivial and undeserving". In consequence, access to law for the deserving has been squeezed. Eligibility for legal aid extended to 70 per cent of households in the early 1980s. Only 50 per cent can be covered now.

The overhaul that Lord Mackay proposes is radical. The Government will fix a limit on the amount spent and devolve responsibility for purchasing to the Legal Aid Board, advised by regional legal services committees. The providers of help in resolving disputes will still tend to be solicitors and barristers in private practice, but in a welcome move away from reliance on costly professionals the necessary services could also be supplied by advice agencies, "paralegals" and mediators. There will be proper

suspicion at the concentration of powers in the hands of officials of the Legal Aid Board; but if the system sees the courts less busy, and the mediators more busy, it may be a price worth paying.

The most welcome changes that the Lord Chancellor proposes are the attempts to limit the bringing of unsuitable cases. In civil and family cases there will be more detailed scrutiny of financial eligibility. A minimum contribution will be demanded from all litigants and those who can afford it will be expected to bear a larger cost of the action. No one offered aid will risk penury pursuing their case, but a clearer recognition of the burden to be borne should give rasher litigants pause for thought.

Moreover, the capacity of the Legal Aid Board to assess how deserving, and not just how winnable, a case might be should make it easier to prevent opportunists, sometimes from other jurisdictions, pursuing inappropriate cases at the taxpayers' expense. The ease with which a former adviser to Saddam Hussein ran through £4 million in legal aid and a German citizen cost £500,000 in a dispute over the invention of the Sony Walkman have lowered the reputation of the legal system in public eyes. It is to be hoped that Lord Mackay's reforms will see all such abuses ended.

There is one other injustice, less advertised but almost more grievous, which these reforms attempt to tackle. Defendants pursued by those on legal aid who are not themselves aided have, in the past, found themselves running up costs they can barely afford while the plaintiff pursues his case at the State's expense. In future, unaided defendants who are awarded costs but find that a poor plaintiff cannot pay will be more likely to avoid a descent into hardship because their costs may more easily be recovered from the Legal Aid Board. Avoidable miseries could be alleviated — the purpose of all good government.

## BACK FOR BUCHANAN

The American presidency needs a united Republican party

Sir James Goldsmith plays host in London today to Patrick Buchanan whose victory in February's New Hampshire primary stunned American politics. The visitor's affection for this country runs deep. He has suggested that free trade between the United Kingdom and United States might be an attractive alternative to European monetary union. This is a generous thought. It is also a welcome break from his less welcome stance of isolationism and protectionism.

Mr Buchanan leaves behind division at home. The Republican primaries have now concluded with a convincing victory for Bob Dole. A fifth of voters, however, backed "Pitchfork Pat", who still remains an active candidate and has not endorsed Mr Dole despite the certainty of that man's nomination. This has led the party establishment to hint that he will not be offered a major role at the San Diego convention and may even be prevented from addressing it. In turn some close to Buchanan have retorted that he might sit out the election or even run a hopeless but damaging independent race.

The candidate, therefore, faces a fundamental choice. He is too shrewd an analyst of American political history to conceive such a kamikaze campaign credible. He can, however, make matters very uncomfortable for the Dole camp while remaining within the party fold. He could attempt to upstage the convention in protest at his treatment. He might condemn the choice of vice-presidential running-mate. Or he may lead efforts to maintain an absolutist stance on abortion. Should he pursue such ideological purity in this manner he would severely impede Mr Dole's chances.

## NEW JEEVES, NEW DANGERS

Or what Tony told his man after the big opening night

"What-ho, Jeeves," I croaked. "These theatrical first nights are a bit of a trial, what with the enthusiastic slushing and cheery commentaries from hellhounds hoping for the worst. The old bean still throbs as though it has been the ball in a penalty shoot-out."

Jeeves shimmered in comfortingly with his foaming glass of patent restorative and the morning papers. "We shall have to read what the critics and the gentleman from *The Times* have to say, sir. But, if I may be permitted to make an observation, I thought that this latest attempt to boost your career in a dramatic performance was a substantial improvement on its original version of 20 years ago. The dialogue was, how shall I say, more up to the minute. The content seemed so much more featherly — almost no baggage at all. As for the numbers, they were delightfully light and unlaboured. I hardly noticed that they were there at all. It was all so persuasively New."

"Yes, Jeeves. But I would much rather that you would not remind me of *Old Jeeves* at all. That was to have been our big hit. The script, by Callaghan and Wilson, was tried and tested. The tunes were by those darlings of the full house, Foot and Benn. It seemed a snip. And yet the show turned out time and time again to be a turkey and a flopperoo. Those union backers of *Old Jeeves* would have been better off ostrich farming or investing in the Channel Tunnel."

"The danger now, sir, if I may say so, is that some of the cast still prefer the old tunes. And once the first night is over, they may re-

vert to their tired old lines that failed last time. I thought that the actor playing the gentleman's gentleman missed the essential gravitas of his role. But the protagonist played as a mentally challenged gentleman was a distinct success. Especially as what Aristotle humorously describes as the *catastrophe* of the plot involves the hero-victim losing his banjo, to the relief of all music lovers."

"What we always needed, Jeeves, was a whatchamacallit. A day machine."

"I think you may have in mind a *deus ex machina*, sir. The convention of Greek tragedy by which a god appears to bring matters to a satisfactory conclusion. And as it happens, the country now has such a saviour. All commentators agree that the nation lacks what they call the 'feel-good' factor. The leaders of the governing party bear a remarkable similarity to characters out of your chronicles, one of them cheerful but vacuous Mr Little and the other the gentleman you kindly describe as the Efficient Baxter, though in his case efficiency is not his most prominent characteristic. And all around them are gentlemen who ought to be members of the Drones Club or tough eggs chucking over-ripe oranges. If all their brains were made out of silk, it would be difficult to gather sufficient material to weave cami-knickers for a canary. So New Jeeves, despite all those dangers, may be an act whose time has come at last."

"Jeeves," I sighed, "You are the spin-doctor who ties Bruce's spider in knots."

"We endeavour to give satisfaction, sir."

This was why Coopers & Lybrand

approached me to give an opinion. I must stress that such an opinion was not concerned with the architectural merits of the building, but solely with the influence of Soane upon it. This I did, visiting the building and studying the documentary evidence.

The definitive work on Soane, *The Architecture of Sir John Soane*, by Dorothy Stroud, mentions Colomberie House only in the appendix list of works, where it records "Jersey, Channel Islands, Clement Hemery (owner of Colomberie House). Design for remodelling, probably not executed".

Certainly in 1810, Hemery sent survey drawings of the house to Soane. The matter of Soane and Colomberie House arose in 1989, when a letter to the Island Development Committee made the astonishing statement that "It has been proved beyond doubt that this is a building designed by Sir John Soane." Clearly, if such a statement were true the status of this modest Georgian house would have to be reassessed.

"Jeeves," I sighed, "You are the spin-doctor who ties Bruce's spider in knots."

"We endeavour to give satisfaction, sir."

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 8KN Telephone 0171-782 5800

### Selective schooling proposals in education White Paper

From Professor Richard A. Pring

Sir. Yesterday's education White Paper proposes a return to selective schooling (report and leading article, June 26). But selection presupposes first, different educational goals for different sorts of pupils; second, the emergence of those differences between pupils at an early age; and, third, the means whereby those differences can be identified.

The tripartite system, created after the war, was based on those three premises. The Norwood report (1943) explained that there were three types of children: those who were clever with their brains (the academic), those who were clever with their hands (the technical), and the rest. And the psychometric work of Cyril Burt and his disciples in the 1930s and 40s provided the measuring instruments whereby those differences between children, pointing to the need for a different sort of education or training, might be detected.

The abandonment of selection — the abandonment of this tripartite system — arose from the realisation that these assumptions were mistaken.

First, all children, not just a few "bright" ones, need a general and liberal education in which all are introduced to the different forms of knowledge — a fundamental principle of the comprehensive system which the national curriculum has done much to enforce.

Second, all children can, in the words of Edward Boyle in 1967, "acquire intelligence" and can continue to do so through good teaching and en-

couragement: ability or aptitude is not "fixed" at the age of 11.

Third, the tests, the 11-plus examinations, although the most sophisticated tests yet devised, simply got the measurements wrong, thus misselecting thousands each year, even within the rather narrow bounds of intelligence which then prevailed.

But at least those who then supported selective schooling were honest. They did believe that, beneath all the apparent individual differences, there were three types of children, that these differences were innate and largely unalterable, and that they could be measured quite objectively, unaffected by social privilege.

The proposals of the White Paper reflect none of this honesty, only the discredited assumptions. To that extent, they may prove popular with the few who, not having to risk their children's desecration through the old 11-plus (a flawed test, maybe, but one as impartial as could be), will benefit from selection on the basis of inter-

view.

But surely influence and the capacity of parents to manipulate the growing market in education, encouraged by this White Paper, are not the way in which this country might one day provide a suitable education for all children, irrespective of background. Very quickly parents will see this.

Yours faithfully,  
RICHARD PRING,  
University of Oxford,  
Department of Educational Studies,  
15 Norham Gardens, Oxford.  
June 26.

From Sir Rhodes Boyson, MP for Brecon North (Conservative)

Sir, I read with interest Simon Jenkins's article of June 26, "Major's last hurrah: the 11-plus".

To me Mrs Shepherd's White Paper represents the end of a secondary comprehensive system which has put Britain one year behind the Europeans and two years behind the Far East in educational standards.

The White Paper recommends a wise diversity of approach and I hope that a secondary school system will evolve in Britain which educates all children according to their abilities, in well-disciplined schools, which also expect the amount of parental support which is taken for granted in the Far East.

I have the honour to remain,  
your obedient servant,  
RHODES BOYSON,  
House of Commons.  
June 27.

From Mrs P. H. Tull

Sir, If there must be separate schools and extra funding to raise the standards of one small section of 11 to 16-year-olds, surely it should be for those children who need it the most — the less able and the most socially disadvantaged.

However, that wouldn't be a vote-catcher.

Yours faithfully,  
PAM TULL,  
10 Careys Cottages,  
Brockenhurst, Hampshire.  
June 25.

### MoD housing sale

From Mr Julian Brazier, MP for Canterbury (Conservative)

Sir. Your leading article today suggests that opponents of the Government's proposal for the sale of MoD housing are opposed to selling surplus estates and against the principle of bringing in the private sector. In fact, our early day motion calls explicitly for the immediate sale of surplus estates and, as one of its organisers, I first outlined a proposal for privatising MoD's married quarters five years ago.

This proposal, however, is a very poor deal for service families and the taxpayer. Developers can cream off the best estates through site exchanges: an arbitrator, not the MoD, decides whether or not "exchange criteria" have been met. How much will the MoD spend on QCs to fight exchange applications by the developer, which can be appealed on points of law?

While the MoD refuses to publish its case-by-case definition of the individual sites, it is meaningless to say that estates will not be broken up. Yet the cohesion of these is the bedrock of family morale while service personnel are away serving Britain for long periods in Bosnia, Ulster and elsewhere.

As civil servants will continue to manage the properties, this proposal is a sale and leaseback, not a true privatisation bringing in any private-sector skills. MoD ministers have refused to modify their proposal in any substantial way after representations from service welfare organisations, ex-chiefs of staff and some of their own colleagues. They should sell the surplus now and consult the Armed Forces at unit level to meet their concerns and get a square deal for the taxpayer.

Yours faithfully,  
JULIAN BRAZIER,  
House of Commons.  
July 2.

### Legend debunked

From Dr I. A. Olson

Sir, Your otherwise astute leading article (June 22; also letter July 1) failed to notice that Sir Walter Scott cheerfully invented England's popular history as well as Scotland's.

Pinching the old folk-story of the persistent spider for his hagiography of the Bruce was nothing to a man who could, for example, magic a cruel, rumous, perverted and absent-minded King Richard the Lionheart into the "Good King Richard the Lionheart" we know and love (with Robin Hood thrown into the bargain).

Yours faithfully,  
IAN OLSON,  
20 Burns Road, Aberdeen.  
July 2.

### Flying bishops

From the Archdeacon of York

Sir. As the two "iniquities" in the Church of England, for and against the ordination of women, are finding ways to co-exist in harmony, it is desperately sad that the Reverend Jean Mayland (letter, June 25) should not only seek to raise the temperature but to do so by resurrecting discredited arguments and employing emotive words like "heresy".

What is more serious is that she writes from the offices of the Council for Churches for Britain and Ireland. Such an intervention on the manner in which a church body conducts its internal affairs is totally improper and calls into question both the commitment to unity and the impartiality for which the CCBI is supposed to stand.

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While I am aware that Ms Mayland relishes her role as an apologist on the bones of Mother Church, she should by now have become aware that the time for bitter polemics has gone, and that nothing but hurt can come from attempting to poison the harmony which the rest of us seek.

Yours faithfully,  
GEORGE AUSTIN,  
7 Lang Road,  
Bishopsgrove, York.

June 26.

From Mrs Caroline Richmond

Sir, I can sympathise with the Reverend Jean Mayland and others like her who feel that the Church of England, in appointing "flying" bishops, is giving its members the chance to deny the priesthood of women.

Yours sincerely,  
DAVID DALE,  
All Saints' Vicarage,  
Ryde, Isle of Wight.  
June 26.

From Christopher Jackson

Sir, As Peter Riddell rightly pointed out in his column on June 25, and as the Prime Minister has made clear today, it is plain wrong to blame Douglas Hogg for the beef crisis. However, no one who has looked at the history of MAFF tackling BSE over the years can fail to have been won over.

The combination in one ministry of Civil Service responsibility for health matters on the one hand and market support/guidance on the other is no longer sustainable in terms of public interest, however able the individuals concerned.

I hope the Prime Minister and Douglas Hogg will note the good points of the American FDA (Food and Drug Administration) and wield the scalpel accordingly.

Yours faithfully,  
CHRISTOPHER JACKSON  
(Chairman, National Agriculture and Countryside Forum),  
8 Wellmeade Drive, Sevenoaks, Kent.  
June 27.

MAFF inconsistency

From Mr Christopher Jackson

Sir, While wholeheartedly sharing the sentiments of Lady Christy Phillips (letter, June 24) towards the Wallace Collection, one must be very wary of asking for too much "government support" for this unique collection and its setting. There are too few authentic museums left in Britain, the Pitt Rivers and the Wallace Collection being the two outstanding examples. Let us strive to keep them out of the hands and influence of the so-called "Heritage" industry.

Rather than risk turning Herford House into a sanitised interpretation centre, with the items on display limited to, say, 5 per cent of the collection (and risk losing those unique basement conveniences), let us find other ways of supporting the collection and the building.

Yours faithfully,  
SYD CAPLAN,  
Oakhurst,  
19 Stanley Road, Criccieth, Gwynedd.  
July 1.

### The Wallace Collection

From Mr Syd Caplan

Sir, While wholeheartedly sharing the sentiments of Lady Christy Phillips (letter, June 24) towards the Wallace Collection, one must be very wary of asking for too much "government support" for this unique collection and its setting. There are too few authentic museums left in Britain, the Pitt Rivers and the Wallace Collection being the two outstanding examples. Let us strive to keep them out of the hands and influence of the so-called "Heritage" industry.

I said in 1992, at a public inquiry at which all the drawings, the survey of 1800, Soane's proposals and the survey of the existing building were studied in great detail, that Soane was horrified if the resulting work had been attributed to him; and in his summing up the judge in the Royal Court of Jersey stated quite clearly: "We find after anxious consideration of all the evidence that this is not a house which can be



## COURT CIRCULAR

## PALACE OF HOLYROODHOUSE

July 2: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh, the Queen attended a Service in St Giles' Cathedral for the Installation of the Lord Lyon of Prestwich as a Knight of the Most Ancient and Most Noble Order of the Thistle.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron, Outward Bound Trust, this afternoon attended a Patron's Company Presentation at the Northern Lighthouse Board, George Street, Edinburgh.

## BUCKINGHAM PALACE

July 2: The Princess Royal, President, Royal Agricultural Society of England, today attended the Royal Show at Stoneleigh, Warwickshire, and the Dean of the Thistle and Minister of St Giles' (the Very Reverend Gilesgaig Macmillan).

Lord Eskdale (Page of Honour to The Queen) was in attendance.

A Guard of Honour found by The Queen's Body Guard for Scotland (Royal Company of Archers), the Colonels of the Royal Yacht Company under the command of Brigadier Captain George Burnet, and accompanied by the Lowland Band of the Scottish Division, was mounted in Parliament Square West.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh gave a Luncheon Party at the Palace of Holyroodhouse for the Knights of the Most Ancient and Most Noble Order of the Thistle.

The following were invited: The Earl and Countess of Wemyss and March, Colonel Sir Lochiel, the Duke and Duchess of Buccleuch and Queensberry, the Earl and Countess of Albany, Captain Sir Michael, and Viscountess Whitchurch, the Lord and Lady Younger of Provost, the Very Reverend Gilesgaig Macmillan (Dean of the Thistle), Sir Malcolm Innes of Edington (Lord Lyon King of Arms), Rear-Admiral David Dunbar-Naismith (Gentleman Usher of the Green Rod) and Lord Eskdale (Page of Honour to The Queen).

His Royal Highness later visited the islands of St Martins and St Agnes.

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July 2: The Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall, today visited the Isles of Scilly.

On St Mary's, His Royal Highness this morning viewed the new harbour facilities and visited the Scilly Tennis Club to mark its Silver Anniversary.

The Duke of Kent, as President of the All England Tennis and Croquet Club, will attend the Wimbledon Championships at 10.45.

## Today's royal engagements

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will visit the Gallery of Modern Art Glasgow, at 3.40.

The Duke of Edinburgh, will visit the Royal Infirmary, at 4.45; and as Patron of Edinburgh University Development Trust, will attend a dinner at the Raeburn Room, Old College, at 7.30.

The Princess Royal, as President of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, will attend the Royal Show at Stoneleigh, Warwickshire, at 10.35; and as Chancellor of London University, will attend the 75th anniversary celebrations at the Institute of Historical Research, Senate House, Malet Street, at 3.00.

Princess Margaret will attend the Royal Show at Stoneleigh, at 11.15.

The Duke of Gloucester, as Patron of the International Council on Monuments and Sites, will attend the annual meeting at the Maritime Museum, Greenwich, at 10.45; and accompanied by the Duchess of Gloucester, will attend a concert in the Chapel Royal of St Peter ad Vincula at 7.30 and will attend a reception at HM Tower of London afterwards.

The Duke of Kent, as President of the All England Tennis and Croquet Club, will attend the Wimbledon Championships at 10.45.

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July 2: The Duke of Kent, President, the Stroke Association, this morning presented Long Service Awards, at St James's Palace, London SW1.

His Royal Highness, President, this evening attended the Automobile Association Committee annual dinner, at Trinity House, Trinity Square, Tower Hill, London EC3.

His Royal Highness gave a Dhana Party this evening at the Palace of Holyroodhouse.

The following were invited: The Rt Hon the Lord Provost of the City of Edinburgh and Mrs Eric Milligan, Major-General and Mrs David Houston, Captain and Mrs George Burnet, the Right Reverend and Mrs John McLennan, Professor Sir David and Lady Carter, Professor Sir Donald and Lady Mackay, Mr and Mrs Harold Mills, Major-General and Mrs Jonnie Hall, Mr and Mrs Robert Clark, Mr and Mrs Roy Cameron, Mr and Mrs René Blair, Mr and Mrs Alasdair Hudson, Mr and

Mrs Moir Lockhead, Mr and Mrs David Miller, Professor and Mrs Alan Rowan, and Mr and Mrs Bill Smart.

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## OBITUARIES

Margot Hemingway, actress and model, was found dead in her studio in Santa Monica, California, on July 1 aged 41. She was born on February 1, 1955.

**MARGOT HEMINGWAY** was not the best actress of her generation. But for a brief moment she looked set to equal, in terms of pure photogenic beauty, any of the luminous Hollywood stars of the 1950s. She projected a Holly-sturdy, statuesque all-American quality; the granite-jawed Amazon crowned with a leonine mane of blonde hair and those trademark, strikingly dark eyebrows.

She made only a handful of films (under the stagename of Margaux), the best known of which was her first, *Lipstick*, in 1976. This became notorious from the moment of its release, not for any real artistic merit, but for the powerful bathroom scene in which Hemingway's character is raped. Hemingway, dressed in an evening gown, ends the film by levelling the score and shooting her assailant in the groin. The critics found it all unforgettably brutal and exploitative.

Unlike her younger sister Mariel, who also starred in *Lipstick* and who went on to better things as an actress, Margot never regarded her film career too seriously. She took after her grandfather, Ernest Hemingway, and preferred the outdoor life and the anaesthetic charms of the liquor bottle. There were also various romances and two marriages to distract her and to feed the gossip columnists.

It was more as a photographic model that she made her mark. In the latter half of the 1970s she was regarded, simply, as the most glamorous woman of her generation. She was also one of the most well rewarded. After toiling up an impressive tally of glossy magazine covers, Hemingway won a contract from the American cosmetic house of Fabergé in 1975. The \$1-million deal was to launch their new scent, Babe.

Hemingway's gilded youth gave way to a dark period in her thirties. She seemed doomed to carry on the family traditions of mental illness and alcoholism. Her famous grandfather, after a lifetime of aggressive drinking, had blown his head off with a shotgun when Margot was only six. His brother and father also killed themselves. While Margot Hemingway was quick to acknowledge the favour of the family name had done her, this trail of self-destruction was as much a part of her genetic inheritance as her famous eyebrows.

She was born the middle of three daughters to Jack Hemingway. He, in turn, was the eldest of Ernest Hemingway's three sons and made his living as a stockbroker and game fishing com-

## MARGOT HEMINGWAY



Margot Hemingway with Anne Bancroft in the courtroom scene of *Lipstick*, 1976

missioner of Idaho. Margot was brought up among cowboys on a ranch seven miles north of the town of Ketchum in Idaho. She was originally christened Margot, but soon discovered the real reason behind her parents' choice of name, and changed the spelling accordingly: she had been conceived after her parents had shared a bottle of Château Margaux.

There was nothing remarkable about her childhood. She was good at sports, rode horses, fished, bicycled everywhere and grew to be tall. She went through a string of offbeat jobs as a teenager. She chauffeured George C. Scott's daughter around Hollywood, worked as a barmaid, and briefly as a publicist. At 19 she left Idaho for New York, and met the first of two husbands, Errol Watson. He was in his thirties, and had made a fortune in the very unglamorous business of hamburgers. He spotted her potential and pushed her into a modelling career. Margot was not naturally extrovert and she coped with the brittle Studio 54 party life by drinking.

Her modelling career blossomed quickly — not least because of her put-in-a-decent-performance-and-looked-wonderful — she was comple-

te. Everyone wanted to pay court to Hemingway's granddaughter. Work for *Vogue* and a coveted cover for *Time* followed, and in 1975 she landed her contract with Fabergé. Lauren Hutton's contract for Revlon had, until that point, been the most lucrative in the world of modelling. Now Hemingway became the highest paid model in the world. The work was not all to her taste, however. She was obliged to wear the new sweet scent, Babe, everywhere in public, and to wear a sickly shade of peach which matched the scent's packaging.

Hollywood did not so much beckon as send out scouting parties for her. Her first film, *Lipstick*, was produced by Dino de Laurentiis who promised to make her a star. Hemingway played a fashion model who is raped, but then not believed when she brings the case to court. The model resorts to luring the rapist into a trap, using as bait her hairy sister (played, on Margot's suggestion, by Mariel Hemingway). The model then extracts her own form of revenge with a shotgun.

Unfortunately for Hemingway — who put in a decent performance and looked wonderful — she was no children.

ly outshone as an actress by her precocious sister. The hype before the film's release, which included gigantic billboards of her face on Sunset Boulevard, did not help and was followed by painfully frank reviews of her acting abilities. The 14-year-old Mariel went on to a serious acting career, starring alongside Woody Allen in *Manhattan* in 1979.

Margot Hemingway's acting career went into decline, although she continued to appear in the occasional film, at the rate of one every couple of years. None was especially distinguished. *Killer Fish* (1978), in which Lee Majors is eaten by a school of rubberised piranhas, was a particular low point. *Over the Brooklyn Bridge* (1983), which was a frantic comedy about a Jewish restaurant owner in New York, was the only one of which she was proud, and for which she got good notices.

Acting, after that first painful baptism, was not the focus of her life. She was divorced from her first husband in 1978 and in 1979 she married the French film-maker Bernard Faucher. She seemed to fit easily into Parisian society. The Fabergé contract ran for five years, but afterwards, while she kept her figure, there were more products to endorse. In 1984 she helped her husband to make a film about her grandmother. She spent her summers back in Ketchum.

Behind that sunny, well-adjusted face, Hemingway's health was swiftly deteriorating. Her second marriage, which had seemed so contented, began to go wrong in the mid-1980s (it quietly ended in divorce). With no regular work, Margot Hemingway turned more aggressively to drink. She had wrestled with epilepsy and bulimia since she was a teenager. Now she became fat and bloated — the unforgivable sin for models. There were regular, well-publicised trips to clinics and soul-searching interviews in tabloid newspapers.

Despite the relentless media pressure, she appeared finally to have beaten her addiction to alcohol in the past few years. There was a new name — she decided to become Margot again, perhaps to avoid the painful experience, for a reformed alcoholic, of being named after a bottle of claret. And, after receiving intensive psychiatric help, she appeared to have become a more contented, slimmer woman.

She moved to Santa Monica, and cycled around the neighbourhood on a battered old bicycle. Her agent found her projects, and she had just completed the narration to a series about wildlife. She appeared in good spirits, and the cause of her death — which was only discovered when worried friends broke into her house — was not immediately apparent. There were no children.

## CAPTAIN GEORGE KITCHIN

Captain George Kitchin, CBE, destroyer captain, died on June 23 aged 75. He was born on February 14, 1921.



GRADUATING from Dartmouth on the eve of the Second World War, Midshipman George Armand de Gavardie Kitchin underwent a number of alarming experiences. His first ship, the battleship *Barnham*, was damaged by a torpedo in December 1939; his second, the battleship *Rodney*, by a 2,000lb bomb off Norway in early 1940. In January 1942 his third ship, the destroyer *Gurkha*, was escorting a vital convoy to the besieged Malta when it was torpedoed and sunk by a U-boat. The Dutch destroyer *Izact Smeers* towed the wreck clear of blazing oil fuel and rescued nearly all the crew.

Kitchin later served as a liaison officer to the Royal Hellenic Navy in the destroyer *Kondouros*. In October 1943 he was appointed as second-in-command successively to the destroyers *Bickerton*, *Coronation* and *Childers*, in which he saw service in the North Atlantic and with the convoys to Russia. He participated in the Normandy invasion and ended his war in the Mediterranean.

While still in *Childers* in 1947, Kitchin was awarded a mention in dispatches for distinguished service during the Palestine Patrol. This was the Royal Navy's contribution to Britain's difficult and debilitating balancing act between Arab and Jewish interests that conditioned the final years of the Palestine Mandate. In order to keep faith with the Arabs, it was necessary to restrict the numbers of Jewish immigrants to 500 a month; arrivals above this limit were to be interned in hastily prepared camps in Cyprus. A naval blockade was set up to prevent immigrant ships beaching. In order to increase moral pressure, the Haganah organisers decreed that lethal weapons would not be used against the sailors and the British would be shown up as cruel oppressors of the survivors of the Holocaust.

*Childers*'s first interception

was the immigrant ship *The Four Freedoms*. Unable them-

selves to use lethal weapons,

the British had to board against severe physical resistance, finding the wheelhouse guarded by tough young sailors armed with iron bars.

Kitchin said later:

"We felt sorry for the refugees, especially the women. It was before the days of women's lib and there was great reluctance to use force against them. But when a strapping young or middle-aged woman hits you in the head with a borts or knees to the groin, you don't feel sorry for her at that particular moment. Maybe you feel sorry for her later, but not then."

A later vessel, the *President*

*Wafield*, presented technically the most difficult boarding operation ever carried out in peacetime. It took several days and two destroyers to surround the elaborate defences and stop her, by which time nearly all *Childers*'s boarders

were regular, well-publicised trips to clinics and soul-searching interviews in tabloid newspapers.

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sure, she appeared finally to have beaten her addiction to alcohol in the past few years. There was a new name — she decided to become Margot again, perhaps to avoid the painful experience, for a reformed alcoholic, of being named after a bottle of claret. And, after receiving intensive psychiatric help, she appeared to have become a more contented, slimmer woman.

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lent and effective leader, Kitchin's subsequent naval career was remarkable for the number of ships that he commanded — a total of six destroyers and frigates and a frigate squadron, mainly in the Far East. Interspersed with these appointments were tours on the staffs of seagoing admirals and the Ministry of Defence, as well as a teacher in the naval staff college.

His final post was in the rank of commodore, overseeing the production and delivery of all naval contract-built ships. He retired in 1976, being appointed a CBE.

In retirement he became an Admiralty Master, responsible for capturing all new warships during their contractor's sea trials under the Red Ensign and before their acceptance by the Navy. His more than fifty vessels included all three of the Navy's present-day aircraft carriers.

A supporter of the Sail Training Association, a keen fisherman and shot, he was also a talented gardener, his topiary featuring in French and British gardening magazines.

He is survived by his wife Jean and their three sons.

## LEO NICHOLS

Leo Nichols, shipping executive, died in Rangoon on June 22 aged 65. He was born on June 8, 1931.

DYING of a stroke in a Rangoon hospital after having served two and a half months of a three-year prison sentence in the city's Insein prison, Leo Nichols was an unlikely man-

tyr to the cause of a free Burma. A talented businessman, he possessed energy and acumen which enabled him to make a good living, even during the decades of the Burmese Way to Socialism.

When the economic opening-up began at the end of the 1980s, he put all his vigour into attracting trade and investment, which was just what

Burma's ruling junta, the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SlorC), was calling for. It was thus typical of SlorC's fixation with keeping total control, regardless of all other considerations, that it arrested Nichols. The formal charge, almost incredibly, was the possession of several unlicensed telephones and fax machines; but the government

newspaper openly accused him of helping Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, leader of the opposition National League for Democracy, which won 80 per cent of the seats in the (aborted) 1990 election.

James Leander (Leo) Nichols was born of mixed origins — Greek, Scottish, Armenian and Burmese. He was the son of George Alexander Nichols,

who owned the Stevedoring Shipping Company in Rangoon. In 1942 the family walked from Burma to India to escape the invading Japanese, and Nichols's father died during the long trek out. Nichols was educated at boarding school in Darjeeling.

After the war, the family returned to Burma, where Nichols worked for a Scandinavian shipping firm and later became general manager of United Liner Agencies. He married his wife, Felicity, in 1951. She and their five children have lived out of Burma in Australia and America for a number of years.

With the nationalisation of all private companies from 1962, when General Ne Win took power, Nichols had to start again. He became honorary Consul-General for Norway, Sweden and Denmark, and even after he was forced to relinquish these semi-official positions in 1981, after a brush with the authorities, he continued to act unofficially for these Governments, and for Finland and Switzerland, none of whom had resident diplomatic representation in Rangoon.

Western businessmen visiting Burma are led to head for Nichols's house, on the way in from the airport, for good advice, practical help and a taste of his home cooking. The more favoured would be shown his veteran cars, including two pre-war Aston Martins, a very early Fiat and his collection of more than 300 bob watches.

But much of his energy was

directed towards looking after other people — his close friends, like "Monty" Myint Thein, the Grand Old Man of Burma, the former Chief Justice and Ne Win's great antagonist, who died in 1994. And for years he helped Daw Khin Kyi, widow of the martyred General Aung San and mother of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

He was first picked up and interrogated for ten days in 1989, at the notorious military intelligence centre near Rangoon airport. What followed was horrific: finding the food inedible, he obtained permission for his cook to send in enough for himself and his interrogators. His foreign friends in and outside Burma then arranged for a flood of

faxes to the Trade Minister, offering to come immediately to look at investment opportunities in Burma, but only if they could meet Nichols. He was accordingly allowed out from his interrogation to dine with these foreign visitors.

Nichols also supported a range of good causes that helped the poor, the pious and the sick in Burma, particularly organising a water supply for a Buddhist monastery and orphans through the Roman Catholic Church. After arranging to install a new refrigerator in the Home for the Aged Poor in Rangoon, he is recalled waltzing round the kitchen with the elderly nun in charge, singing "Daisy, Daisy". Give me your answer do!

He suffered later from failing eyesight, high blood pressure and diabetes. It is all too likely that the lengthy interrogations to which he was subjected during his solitary confinement in prison hastened his death, which occurred an hour or so after he was sent from prison to the Rangoon General Hospital. Burmese army officials conducted an autopsy without any civilian witnesses and (typically) tried to discourage family and friends from attending the hastily arranged funeral.

An Australian friend made sure that a bottle of whisky was put in the grave with him, in token of his unfailing hospitality.

Leo Nichols is survived by his wife Felicity and by his five children.

with the family. Indeed, Nichols had no wish to become involved in politics as such, and he was never one for ostentatious heroics. Yet he went on visiting and helping Suu Kyi.

He was first picked up and interrogated for ten days in 1989, at the notorious military intelligence centre near Rangoon airport.

Nichols came to the attention of the authorities because of the practical help he gave to his daughter after the mother died in 1988, help that had nothing to do with her entry into politics, but stemmed simply from his friendship

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THE TIMES WEDNESDAY JULY 3 1996

# Will the glossies switch to TV?

**Popular magazines such as *Vogue* and *GQ* may soon be allowed to reinvent themselves for the small screen. Alexandra Frean reports**

**M**agazine publishers, who have been lobbying hard for the right to turn their publications into television programmes, believe they are finally making headway after the Independent Television Commission's announcement that it is to review the rules banning them from transferring their print titles directly to the small screen. So could viewers soon be watching the *Vogue* show or the *What Car?* half-hour on television?

Ian Locks, of the Periodical Publishers Association, which represents almost 200 magazine publishers, believes that viewers are losing out on the rich seam of news and feature material in magazines that could easily become the source of a new concept of consumer TV programming.

For years, Locks says, the regulations have allowed TV shows to launch magazines — a strategy known as "masthead publishing" and employed to great effect by the BBC with a range of titles from *The Clothes Show*, *magazine to Gardeners' World*. Magazines, however, have never been allowed to do the same in reverse — "masthead-programming" — because the ITC has always considered it a backdoor way for them to plug their titles.

Locks says: "Magazines have effectively been treated in the same way as advertisers of dog food or baked beans." They can sponsor a programme, but they cannot influence its content and put their brand identity on it.

"It is time," he adds, "that the ITC learnt to differentiate between magazines, which have intellectual-property content, and tins of beans. There is an enormous amount of intellectual property bound up

in magazines that should be allowed to flow into television. The rules are blocking a whole range of intellectual property from consumers."

Locks points to the example of America, where *American Baby* and other magazines have launched their own television programmes, and to Australia, where there are a whole range of lifestyle programmes covering subjects from gardening to pop music, and based on magazines.

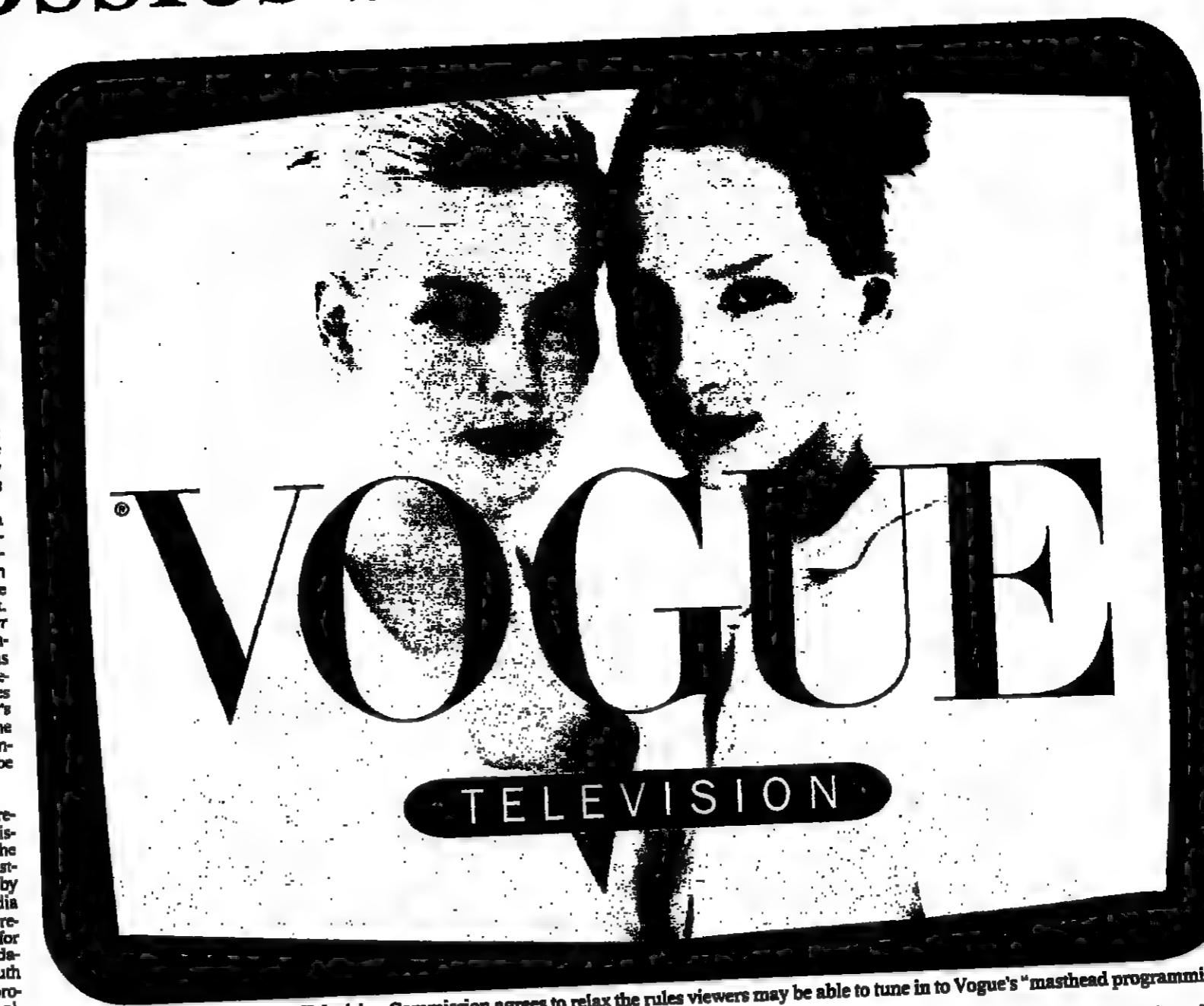
Nicholas Coleridge of Condé Nast gave a cautious welcome to the concept. The company has a few titles —

'It might be hard to replicate the quality of our magazines'

notably *Vogue*, *House and Garden* and *GQ* — which he believes might be transferred to the small screen, although recreating the "feel" of the magazine in a TV programme might be difficult and could tarnish the high production values of the print versions.

He explains: "Our magazines try to produce the perfect photo — a frozen moment of perfection — that might be hard to replicate on television. You certainly couldn't get the same effect by having two people sitting on sofa and chatting. I would be interested to see what other publishers do before we do anything."

As Tom Moloney, chief executive of Emap's consumer magazine division in the UK, says: "In the future there will



Screen test: if the Independent Television Commission agrees to relax the rules viewers may be able to tune in to *Vogue's* "masthead programming"

just be brands, such as *Cosmopolitan*, which, if they are strong enough, will be delivered across a whole range of media from magazines, to television to books or whatever."

To many in the industry, then, masthead programming is the logical conclusion of the

Hollick's television-to-financial services group MAI with United, publishers of the *Express*.

Some magazine publishers predict that eventually, the demand for more masthead programming will come, not from them, but from the scores

of new digital cable and satellite stations, many of them specialising in niche markets and all of them hungry for tailor-made programming to fill their airtime.

As Terry Mansfield, managing director of the National Magazines Company, says:

"With the explosion of television opportunities in this country, we deeply believe that magazines will become part of the programming possibilities. The channels will need something to show, rather than repeating the same film hundreds of times."

## Aids spotlight refocuses on homosexual arena

After years of misdirected health pleas media coverage is switching from the low-risk heterosexual community, says Kyle Smith

**A**fter 14 years of Aids awareness campaigns built around cherubic youngsters and fresh-faced mothers, the real lives of gay men are finally coming into the bright lights of the media.

Activists find themselves in grudging agreement with conservatives who argue that precious funding for public health messages has been misdirected at low-risk heterosexuals when gay men are dying in greater numbers.

"Most of the work done by the Health Education Authority, I have to say, was probably wasted," says Simon Watney, of the Red Hot Aids Charitable Trust. "The work they produced wasn't good because they didn't consult very well with the people forced to live with the disease. They relied on ad agencies whose skill in selling television sets or shampoos never struck me as particularly ap-

propriate to a major health crisis. It is necessary to do generalist education. But the proportion of funding and effort that has gone to that has been disproportionate when Aids has had such a disproportionate impact on gay men."

Mr Watney says the proportion of public Aids awareness spending that has been targeted at gays has only just risen to 15 per cent after lingering below 5 per cent for years.

Terry Sanderson, media editor of *Gay Times*, says:

"There's no doubt that the right wing are crowing a little bit, saying we're right all along, but it could have been very different in the beginning. Nobody really knew what could have happened if there had been no education and no spending."

British film and television dealing with Aids, says the screenwriter Howard Schu-



Jonathan Blake, who has been HIV positive for 14 years, appears in the first of six posters

man, has until recent months focused entirely on heterosexuals. "I think there are two reasons," says Mr Schuman, an American who has worked in Britain for 28 years and recently wrote the BBC drama *Nervous Energy*, about a gay couple living with Aids. "One was a slightly misguided liberal idea that Aids should not be seen as a gay illness, and the other was a warning of unleashing any gay characters on television."

Mr Schuman says *Nervous Energy*, which was broadcast in December, was the first full-length television drama to deal with gay characters with Aids. Only one British feature film, *To Die For*, has dealt with gays and Aids, he says. After the success of *Nervous Energy*, several more works about gays with Aids are on the way to British television and cinemas.

**T**he refocus on the gay world has become possible only because activists have won a battle frank and open discussion of the disease and associated issues, such as condoms and the mechanics of gay sex, that were not debated in the na-

targeted at gay men. The advertisements, to be shown on London Transport, in magazines and on billboards, depict real gay men with HIV or Aids in stark black-and-white photographs. The messages are intended to reinforce safer sex habits.

Jonathan Blake, featured in the first advertisement, says:

"I have been living with HIV for 14 years, so I know from personal experience that maintaining safer sex over a number of years, every time you have sex, is not easy."

Nick Partridge, chief executive of the Terrence Higgins Trust, says: "Targeting gay men in this campaign does

worry that government funding will become scarcer and that gay-targeted advertising will miss some people at risk."

"I think it's essential that Aids is 're-gayed,' as the terminology puts it," says Mr Sanderson. "The problem is, a lot of people who need the information don't buy the gay press and don't move in gay circles, such as straight men who occasionally lapse and very young gay people."

Mr Watney says: "It is widely recognised that we are not going to get a cure by fiat. The work must be done inside the institutions rather than by the old leftist methods of standing outside shouting."

## The door is closing on press freedom



**PAPER ROUND**  
Brian MacArthur

**A**t 76, Sir Frank Rogers, the deputy chairman of the Telegraph and chairman of the Newspaper Publishers' Association, is one of the grand old men of Fleet Street who very quickly sniffs off any threat to the freedom of the press.

He is now trying to alert editors to a new danger — that an official appointed by the Government is trying to establish privacy legislation by the back door and without any discussion in Parliament.

If Elizabeth France, the Data Protection Registrar, succeeds in becoming Britain's Privacy Commissioner, the investigative skills of journalists will, he says, be seriously inhibited.

So far, his warning seems to be falling on deaf editorial ears, mainly because it involves a maddeningly boring subject of mind-boggling complexity — which is precisely the sort of subject that requires eternal vigilance.

That subject is the implementation in British law by the Home Office of a new 20-page European Commission Directive, 95/46/EC data protection.

At the centre of the controversy are Articles 8 and 9, which state: "Member states shall prohibit the processing of personal data revealing racial or ethnic origins, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, trade union membership and the

processing of data concerning health or sex life.

"Member states shall provide for exemptions from the provisions... for the processing of personal data carried out solely for journalistic purposes or the purpose of artistic or literary expression only if they are necessary to reconcile the right to privacy with the rules governing freedom of expression."

As citizens, the directive concerns us all, and is to be applauded. We all believe in the protection of personal data particularly against the misuse of direct-mail address lists, credit references or data held on police computers. So why should journalists seek any special exemption?

The answer is simple: unless there are exemptions for journalists, the directive will inhibit their ability to uncover

er scandal in high and low places — the exposure of City fraudsters or drug peddlars or paedophiles. When Robert Maxwell was trying to stop Tom Bower's investigation of his affairs, it was the Data Protection Act that his lawyers advised him to use.

Editors resort very easily to eloquent defences of the freedom of the press. Yet when investigative newspaper journalism is in decline and Sunday tabloid "MP in three in-a-bed sex romp" stories strengthen the case for a privacy law, they sometimes ring less convincingly than they did from John Thadeus Delane of *The Times*, C.P. Scott of the *Manchester Guardian* or Harold Evans of *The Sunday Times*.

Yet that freedom is still vital and could be endangered by EC Directive 95/46.

Mrs France insists that she is being misunderstood and misinterpreted. Her job, she says, is to apply the law as

agreed by the Home Office, some of the dangers to journalism are:

- The leader of a fanatical religious cult or an extremist political group could not be identified.
- A journalist could not pose as a customer to get information for a consumer protection story.

- Direct questions could not be asked of the subjects of investigations without drawing attention to their right of access to all data concerning them.

- Journalists could be required to inform the subjects of their investigations prior to publication and could be required to reveal on request the existence of all investigations and all data they held.

The Home Office has asked for replies to a consultation document this month. So Mrs France and newspaper lobbying organisations are now battling for the ear of Michael Howard, the Home Secretary.

Mrs France insists that she is being misunderstood and misinterpreted. Her job, she says, is to apply the law as

drafted — which at present allows no exemption for the press. All that she is doing is seeking the co-operation of the press in trying to draft exemption clauses that would leave the freedom of the press intact.

The Newspaper Publishers' Association, representing Fleet Street, and the Newspaper Society, speaking for regional newspapers, beg to differ. Newspapers have complied with the 1984 Data Protection Act, they say, but she is obsessed with privacy which is already self-regulated by the Press Complaints Commission.

Although her own paper on the EC directive says that the subject access is "perhaps" a problem for "legitimate" investigations, it adds that the directive has moved permanently the goalposts of society. Individuals are now entitled to know what information is held about them and to a degree of control over that information unless good cause can be shown to the contrary.

Sir Frank has a ready answer: "It is unacceptable for a public official to consider that her role is political rather than administrative. Parliament has not vested her with any powers or duties to influence national thinking on privacy. Every journalist should vigorously and persistently challenge what the registrar is proposing."

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Height \_\_\_\_\_

Weight \_\_\_\_\_

Eye Colour \_\_\_\_\_

Hair Colour \_\_\_\_\_

# THE TIMES TODAY

WEDNESDAY JULY 3 1996

## NEWS

### Test for merit in legal aid reform

Reforms to stop millions of pounds of legal aid going on trivial cases were announced yesterday in the biggest shake-up of the scheme since it was set up in 1949.

Lord Mackay of Clashfern hopes to introduce legislation this autumn to impose cash limits on the £1.4 billion scheme. The Bill would also bring in a merit test, so that only the most deserving cases would be funded out of taxpayers' money.

**English slip to back of maths class**

English teenagers are plummeting down the international league in mathematics, according to an authoritative study of standards in 41 countries, to be published later this year. But in science they are the brains of Europe, coming sixth out of 27 countries.

**Fatal painkiller**

A patient in one of Britain's most expensive private hospitals died after a doctor misread a colleague's handwriting and gave her ten times the required dose of diamorphine.

**Publisher backs Blair**

The pre-election battle intensified after it emerged that Paul Hamlyn, the publisher, is to finance most of Labour's £1 million advertising campaign to sell its new manifesto.

**Herring cutback**

The European Commission has ordered a 50 per cent cut in this year's herring catch from the North Sea as an emergency measure to save fast-dwindling stocks.

**Low-flying prank**

A video film showing the moment a soldier was killed in an alleged game of "chicken" as he was buzzed by a low-flying RAF Hercules has been shown to a jury.

**Hemingways 'cursed'**

Hollywood spoke yesterday of a "curse of the Hemingways" after the death of the beautiful Margot Hemingway.

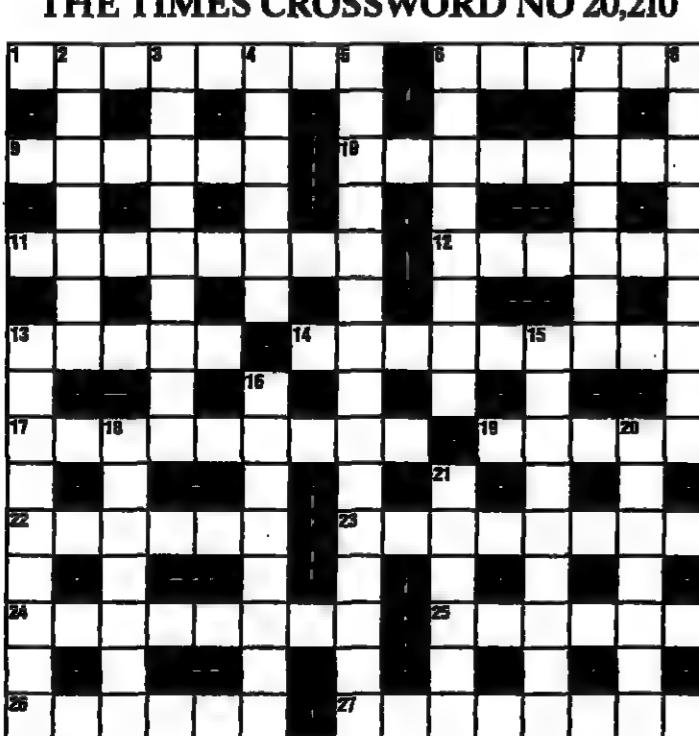
**Tennis dynasty**

When Tim Henman strides on to the Centre Court at Wimbledon today he will be carrying on a family tradition that goes back over four generations.

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Fashion models will strut on to the information superhighway next week when Yves Saint-Laurent unveils his autumn-winter collection directly on to the Internet. The fashion industry has been infuriated by pirated photographs of collections appearing on the net so M. Saint-Laurent has decided to provide the service himself.

**THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,210**



**ACROSS**

- Baby fruit's not right — this is a small vegetable (8).
- Prison workers' severe blow — zero imprisoned, right? (6).
- Discover what mischief-makers drew? (6).
- Pain and various ills required protective clothing (8).
- Least demanding trial of veracity, roughly speaking (8).
- Total change of policy introduces quiet improvement in the economy (6).
- Wild man in black repulsed nearly everyone (5).
- One at font irritated about padre garbling name (9).
- Conservative's boorish behaviour displaying such vulgarity (9).
- Take it with a sprig of green vegetable (5).
- Works out the answer, and thus likes to omit nothing (6).
- Vote against incorporating very sad, dark colour (4,4).

**Solution to Puzzle No 20,209**

**FOURPOSTER BLOCK**  
A P O I G I L  
D I S T O R T I O N K N E E  
E W R U I E E F  
W E A R A S S I S T A N T  
R P E T T I G S  
E X C O L L E D A R D E N T  
P A D M A I  
R E C I T E H Y P N O T I C  
E O I V R G R K  
S Y M P O S I U M E V E N  
E P N R I M A I  
N E A R B A L D H E A D E D  
T R G O N L O  
S T E M D O M N A T H E E L

**Times Two Crossword, page 52**



Fans queue for tickets to see Tim Henman's quarter-final match against Todd Martin at Wimbledon this afternoon. Report, page 5

### For richer or poorer

An American socialite who demanded a bigger divorce settlement from her billionaire husband was told by three judges to settle for the \$8.85 million already awarded.

**School report**

Bias against applicants from independent schools adds to the "lottery" of gaining a university place, according to their head teachers.

**Karadzic attack**

Having outwitted Carl Bildt, the international mediator, Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, has attacked the international community on television for trying to unseat him.

**Russia goes to polls**

Voters will turn out at polls across Russia today in a run-off presidential election between Boris Yeltsin and Gennadi Zyuganov.

**Corsica car bomb**

Terrorism returned to Corsica this week when a car bomb exploded in a popular resort, killing one militant nationalist and seriously injuring two others.

**Hemingways 'cursed'**

Hollywood spoke yesterday of a "curse of the Hemingways" after the death of the beautiful Margot Hemingway.

**Tennis dynasty**

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**JOBS** Up to 5,000 jobs will be lost as the result of a worldwide restructuring plan announced by Credit Suisse.

**TECS** Leaders of the Training and Enterprise Councils, gathering for their conference in Birmingham, are considering suggestions for re-placements to Tec.

**WESTMINSTER** A British company backed by Kohlberg Kravis Roberts, America's most powerful leveraged buyout firm, is set to bid for Westminster Press, the regional newspaper group.

**MARKETS** The FTSE 100 index rose 0.1 points to close at 3725.7. Sterling's trade-weighted index rose from 86.5 to 87.6 after a rise from \$1.557 to \$1.5562 and from DM2.3698 to DM2.3759.

**CORSAICA** A car bomb exploded in a popular resort, killing one militant nationalist and seriously injuring two others.

**HENRY ROYAL REGATTA** London's B and Cights have the unenviable honour of providing the first race of the Henley Royal Regatta at 8.30am.

**CRICKET** Oxford dominated the opening day of the 151st University match at Lord's, scoring 390 for four against Cambridge. Andrew Ridley, a Bradman scholar, made 155.

**ROWING** London's B and Cights have the unenviable honour of providing the first race of the Henley Royal Regatta at 8.30am.

**ASIAN STOCKS** The Belgian choreographer Anne Teresa De Keersmaecker is bringing her company Rosas to the Festival Hall, the first time contemporary dance will be seen in the vast auditorium.

**THUMBS UP** The new West End production of *The Aspern Papers* is both quietly gripping and modestly enjoyable.

**SPORTS** Kimiko Date became the first Japanese semi-finalist at Wimbledon since 1933 when she defeated Mary Pierce 3-6, 6-3, 6-1 in the quarter-finals of the women's singles.

**FOOTBALL** Glenn Hoddle, the new England coach, has approached Arsene Wenger, his former coach at AS Monaco, to become technical director.

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**ARTS** Jim Jarmusch explains why he had a lot of help with his new film *Dead Man*, from poet William Blake to rocker Neil Young.

**BACK TO BASICS** The Royal Academy returns to an emphasis on traditional drawing skills, while the Royal Academy is also introducing children to the first skills of life-drawing.

**FIRST STEPS** The Belgian choreographer Anne Teresa De Keersmaecker is bringing her company Rosas to the Festival Hall, the first time contemporary dance will be seen in the vast auditorium.

**THUMBS UP** The new West End production of *The Aspern Papers* is both quietly gripping and modestly enjoyable.

**COLLECTORS** The Belgian choreographer Anne Teresa De Keersmaecker is bringing her company Rosas to the Festival Hall, the first time contemporary dance will be seen in the vast auditorium.

**ROBERT SKIDELSKY** The party which exists to defend the Constitution offers no explicit defence of the House of Lords in its present form; nor does it propose any alternative scheme of reform.

**PETER RIDDELL** It is a pity that no one in Conservative Central Office has a sense of the ridiculous. Otherwise they would have prevented Brian Mawhinney and Michael Heseltine from making fools of themselves at the launch of the party's new attack on Labour. The contrived and embarrassing event was more than a media gimmick; it showed how desperate the Tories are.

**LETTERS** — *Studieutsche Zeitung*

**PRIVATE DANGER** A Government-appointed official is trying to establish privacy legislation by the back door and without any discussion in Parliament.

**IN THE TIMES**

**FILMS** Geoff Brown sees Tom Cruise having great fun in the suspenseful *Mission: Impossible*.

**BOOKS** Anita Desai on gurus, Karl Miller on Burns, Ian McIntyre on Lynne Truss's new novel

**OUTLOOK** for tomorrow and Friday: windy with showers or longer periods of rain.

**POLEN FORECAST** Low in all areas.

**AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY**

**WEATHER** Yesterday: Highest day temp: Heathrow Airport 21°C (70°F); lowest day temp: Machynlleth, 0.6°C (33°F); highest rainfall: Aberdeen, 0.6mm; highest sunshine: Southport, Merseyside, 12hr.

**AA ROADWATCH** AA Research cost is charged at 35p per minute (cheap rate) and 45p per minute at all other rates.

**HIGHEST & LOWEST**

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**FLIGHT SAVERS**

**LONDON TO AMSTERDAM** From £69 return.

**LONDON TO MUNICH** From £80 return.

**LONDON TO NICE** From £94 return.

**AA ROADWATCH**

For the latest regional weather forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 800 followed by the appropriate code:

Greater London 701

Kent, Surrey, Sussex 702

Devon & Cornwall 703

Wiltshire, Avon, Somerset 704

Beds, Bucks, Cheshire 705

Shropshire, Hereford & Worcester 706

West Mid & Staffs & Gwent 707

South Wales 708

East Midlands 709

Lincolnshire, Humberside 710

Dyfed & Powys 711

Gwynedd & Cheshire 712

W & York & Derby 713

N E England & Cumbria 714

W Central Scotland 715

East & S Lothian & Borders 716

Glenrothes & Fife 717

Grampian 718

N W Scotland 719

Orkney & Shetland 720

N Ireland 721

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Beds, Bucks, Cheshire 705

Shropshire, Hereford & Worcester 706

West Mid & Staffs & Gwent 707

South Wales 708

East Midlands 709

Lincolnshire, Humberside 710

Dyfed & Powys 711

Gwynedd & Cheshire 712

W & York & Derby 713

N E England & Cumbria 714

W Central Scotland 715

East & S Lothian & Borders 716

Glenrothes & Fife 717

Grampian 718

N W Scotland 719

Orkney & Shetland 720

&lt;p

## PROPERTY 34, 40

The designer who turned her house into a bigger home

## ARTS 41-43

How Jim Jarmusch and William Blake untamed the West

## SPORT 45-52

The record-breaker testing England's women to the limit

TELEVISION  
AND  
RADIO  
Pages 50, 51

# THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

WEDNESDAY JULY 3 1996

ADRIAN SHERATT

LME founder acts in Tokyo

## Metal broker suspends 3 in copper probe

BY ROBERT MILLER IN LONDON AND RICHARD THOMSON IN NEW YORK

A LEADING London metal broker and founder member of the London Metal Exchange has suspended three of its employees in Tokyo as part of an internal investigation related to the \$1.8 billion Sumitomo copper scandal.

Rudolf Wolff, the UK metal broker founded 130 years ago, said yesterday that the three people concerned were co-operating with the internal inquiry into dealings that the firm had with Sumitomo and its former chief copper trader, Yasuo Hamanaka.

A spokesman added: "We would never tolerate any behaviour which is not impeccable. Our total Japanese business accounted for less than four per cent of worldwide revenue which last year was \$45 million."

Other major copper dealing and broking firms with offices in Japan, nearly all of whom traded with Sumitomo, declined to comment on whether staff had been suspended pending the outcome of internal investigations.

With so many criminal and civil investigations now being conducted into the Sumitomo copper scandal, involving agencies in America, Britain and Japan, fears that there was a concerted bid to rig the world's copper markets, possibly through fraudulent activities, are mounting.

In London yesterday the price of copper for delivery in three months time, the market benchmark, closed lower at \$1,895 a tonne compared with \$2,000 prior to the scandal becoming public knowledge on June 13.

In America yesterday it was announced that the US Federal Bureau of Investigation has joined the investigation into

the Sumitomo affair by requesting documents from a trader who made a complaint about the Japanese commodity giant in 1991.

The FBI has asked David Threlkeld, who is based in Vermont, to hand over telexes and faxes relating to his dealings with Sumitomo and Mr Hamanaka, the trader blamed for losses that could total \$3 billion when the full extent of his copper dealings are unravelled.

The FBI is understood to be

### Delta warns of new stock writedown

DELTA, the cables and engineering group, yesterday gave warning that the drop in copper prices has forced it to write down the value of its metal stocks by \$6 million.

It is the second such warning to be issued by Delta in two weeks.

On June 14, when news of the huge Sumitomo losses on copper trading was first emerging, the company said that it had written down the value of its metal stocks by £3 million.

involved as part of a grand jury investigation into Sumitomo and the role of US traders and markets in the debacle. A US copper trading firm, Global Minerals and Metals, has been subpoenaed by the US Attorney's office in Manhattan which is leading the investigation.

Mr Threlkeld complained to the London Metal Exchange in 1991 that Mr Hamanaka had asked him to supply documents detailing false trades.

## KKR to back bid for Pearson titles

BY ERIC REGULY

A BRITISH company backed by Kohlberg Kravis Roberts, America's most powerful leveraged buyout firm, is set to bid for Westminster Press (WP), the regional newspaper group that has been put up for auction by Pearson.

Newspaper Media Group, which is controlled by KKR, is thought to be among the strongest candidates for WP. Jim Brown, chairman and chief executive of Newspaper, would not confirm that a bid is imminent, but said: "We are very interested in Westminster Press. We have an advantage because we would have no competition problems and no financing problems."

Analysts have valued WP as high as £350 million, though bids are expected to be substantially lower. Anthony de

Larrinaga, of Panmure Gordon, said: "I would guess that £300 million would be the top price. Pearson fattened up the margins to sell it, but they didn't attack the core problem of declining readership."

WP owns about 60 daily and weekly titles with a total circulation of 2.4 million. The larger ones include the *Evening Argus*, Brighton, and *The Northern Echo*. The group reported a trading profit of £25 million before exceptional charges of £5.7 million, on turnover of £143 million in 1995.

Rivals may include Tony O'Reilly's Independent Newspapers, which has just raised £108 million through a rights issue, and Trinity International Holdings, which last year bought the bulk of Thomson's regional titles.

## Crédit Suisse to shed 5,000 jobs

BY ROBERT MILLER

UP TO 5,000 jobs will be lost as the result of a global restructuring plan announced yesterday by CS Holding, the Swiss parent company of Crédit Suisse and CS First Boston.

The brunt of the job losses, for which the Swiss bank is to set aside a provision of around £513 million, will fall in Switzerland where 3,500 staff are

expected to leave. Dr Josef Ackermann, president of Credit Suisse's executive board, has resigned "due to differing views". The London office is expected to lose "a handful of jobs" mostly through natural wastage.

The Swiss group said that the newly branded Credit Suisse group would begin operations on January 1 1997.



Graham Roper, chairman of The Berkeley Group, the housebuilder, said current sales reservations are running 20 per cent ahead of last year. Berkeley's annual pre-tax profits rose 15.3 per cent to £43.4 million. Page 29; Tempus, Page 30

## Scrap Tecs, urges secret report

BY PHILIP BASSETT  
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

A CONFIDENTIAL policy paper from the Training and Enterprise Councils (Tecs) has recommended that they be scrapped and replaced with a new framework of local organisations to promote economic development.

The proposals are currently being examined by the leaders of the Tec's who will gather in Birmingham today for their annual conference.

The Government is also currently proposing a radical review of the £250 million that it spends on services to business, suggesting that their delivery is moved from the Department of Trade and Industry and is handled instead at local level by Business Links, the one-stop shop service centres run by Tecs, councils and chambers of commerce.

The Tec's unpublished document says that the "wide range" of business bodies "risks incoherence and duplication".

Tecs and chambers are already merging, and the draft document, which will be considered by its national council in September, says: "In the longer term, it may well be that what is needed is the evolutionary development of a completely new national framework of employer-owned and led bodies."

Such organisations, it says, would be recognised by the Government as having the responsibility for local economic development and competitiveness, and for the delivery of business services, including training.

Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, told the annual chambers' conference in Birmingham yesterday that the Government "attaches great importance to making increasing use of the Business Link network to deliver services to business at local level."

No tax cuts, page 28  
Future focus, page 31

## BUSINESS TODAY

	FTSE 100	3705.7	(+0.11)
Yen	4.97%	4.97%	(+0.59)
FTSE All Share	1865.54	1865.54	(+0.59)
Nikkei	22247.97	22247.97	(-0.52)
New York	5710.77	5710.77	(-19.21)*
Dow Jones	5713.38	5713.38	(-1.50)*

	US INDEX	(%)
Federal Funds	5.75%	(7.5)
Long Bond	8.85%	(8.51%)
Yield	8.93%	(8.51%)

	EUROPE	(%)
3-month Interbank	8.5%	(8.5%)
Little long gilt future (Sep)	108.75	(108.75)

	UK INDEX	(%)
New York	1,558.00	(1,558.00)
London	1,555.00	(1,555.00)
S. DM	1,558.00	(1,558.00)
FFP	1,558.00	(1,558.00)
DM	1,558.00	(1,558.00)
Yen	110.00	(109.51)
S Index	97.4	(96.5)

	YEN DOLLARS	(%)
London	1,558.00	(1,558.00)
DM	1,558.00	(1,558.00)
FFP	1,558.00	(1,558.00)
DM	1,558.00	(1,558.00)
Yen	110.00	(109.51)
S Index	97.4	(96.5)

Tokyo close Yen 109.85

Brut 15-day (Sep) \$118.75 (\$118.65)

London close ... 9381.55 (9382.05)

\* denotes midday trading price

## No tax cuts

Business leaders do not want to see pre-election tax cuts and urged politicians not to throw away Britain's competitive advantages for short-term electoral gain. The annual conference of the British Chambers of Commerce heard pleas from business and the banks for economic stability and the maintenance of low inflation. Political leaders, meanwhile, are making a fresh pitch at business. Page 28

## Buy-back

Argyll, the supermarkets group soon to be renamed Safeway, launched a buy-back for 5 per cent of its shares yesterday within an hour of receiving approval from shareholders at its annual meeting. Markets 30, Tempus 30

## More jobs likely as Boots grows

BY SARAH CUNNINGHAM

BOOTS yesterday revealed plans to spend £300 million on developing its 1,228-strong chemists chain over the next four years. Boots the Chemist opened 48 stores last year, creating 1,800 jobs, many part-time, so the opening of 40 more stores can be expected to create 1,500 jobs this year.

The company is also pushing on with pilot trials of a customer loyalty card. A second, larger trial of the Advantage card is about to be launched in about 20 stores in Devon. Steve Russell, Boots the Chemist managing director, said the first trial, at 13 stores in the Norfolk area, had proved "extremely encouraging". Around 30 per cent of customers signed for the card and sales had risen over 3 per cent - more than

paying for the scheme. He said it was not certain that the scheme, which offers discounts and uses smart card technology, would be extended to the whole country. Smart cards contain computer chips and carry more data than the credit card-style loyalty cards used by most retailers.

Mr Russell said the bulk of the capital investment investment will go on store development and on systems. He said BTC is considering an expansion into "developed and emerging" markets abroad but gave no details. The company's aim is to open a total of 240 more small stores in the UK. So far it has opened 120 and it hopes to open a further 40 this year.

Tempus, page 30

## RESULTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1996

The Board of Directors of Compagnie Financière Richemont AG announces the following results for the year ended 31 March 1996.

	1996	1995	
Net Sales Revenue	£ 4306.9 m	£ 3852.1 m	+ 11.8%
Operating Profit	£ 798.9 m	£ 688.0 m	+ 16.1%
Profit Attributable to Unitholders	£ 316.1 m	£ 261.9 m	+ 20.7%
Earnings per Unit	£ 55.05	£ 45.61	+ 20.7%
Dividend per Unit	£ 8.00	£ 7.00	+ 14.3%

The financial highlights shown above exclude the effects of exceptional items and goodwill amortisation from the results for both years.

- The Group's operating profit was 16.1% above the previous year at £798.9 million.
- Operating profit from Richemont's tobacco interests, which are held through Rothmans International, increased by 21.3% to £605.7 million.
- Vendôme Luxury Group, the holding company for the Group's luxury goods interests, reported an increase of 12.3% in operating profit to £249.7 million.
- Richemont's share of operating losses from its media interests, which are held through Nethold BV, increased by £8.2 million to £46.3 million.

Copies of the full results announcement and the annual report may be obtained from: Compagnie Financière Richemont AG Rigistrasse

# BCC urges politicians to resist cutting tax

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

BRITAIN'S business leaders gave a strong warning against pre-election tax cuts and urged politicians not to throw away Britain's competitive economic advantages for short-term electoral gain.

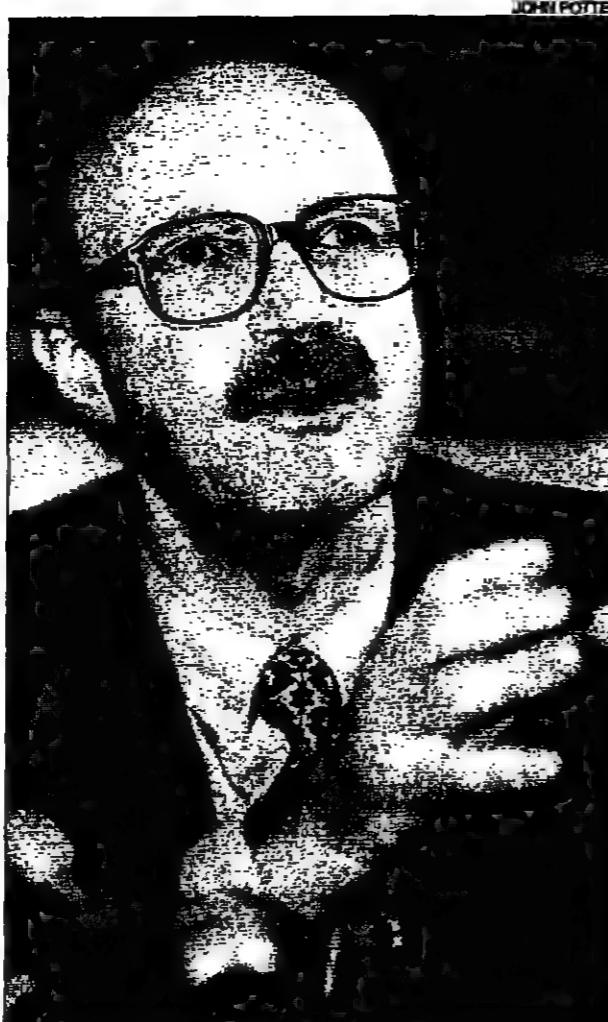
The annual conference of the British Chambers of Commerce heard pleas from business and the banks for economic stability and the maintenance of low inflation.

Political leaders are this week making a fresh pitch at business, with Tony Blair today scheduled to follow Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, at the chambers' conference.

Mr Lang yesterday insisted to the conference that a Labour government would be "immensely damaging" to business in Britain, in spite of the "honeyed words" from Mr Blair. Labour's Mr Lang said he would increase taxes, pump up inflation, increase the power of the trade unions and in reality intervene more directly in British industry.

He warned business leaders against Britain forfeiting its competitive edge by voting Labour into office.

A poll of chief executives and chairmen at the BCC



John Potter

conference yesterday by BBC TV's *Business Breakfast* shows that business is largely unafraid of a Labour government. Among the sample of delegates surveyed, 60 per cent said they were not worried by the prospect of Labour being elected, with 34 per cent expressing concern.

BCC delegates were more divided about an early general election, with 48 per cent against such a move and 35 per cent in favour.

Robin Goldard, BCC President, spoke out against tax cuts in the run-up to an election. He said: "What we fear is that politicians, for political reasons, might be tempted to do things which might not suit the economy and might not suit business — like giving away tax, which we would be very much against."

But he denied that the invitation to Mr Blair to speak at the BCC conference for the second year running amounted to an endorsement by business of Labour.

In his speech, Mr Lang argued that the Government's policy towards industry in Britain now supported regions of the UK so that a "virtuous circle of competition, performance and competitiveness

takes root". Insisting that there had been a "levelling-out" of economic activity and job opportunities, Mr Lang said that the spirit of enterprise that had been generated by the Government had narrowed disparities between regions. Regional policy was no longer primarily about regional assistance, but was about promoting successful and competitive regions nationwide.

## Opt-out did not decide Siemens UK investment

By OUR INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

SIEMENS, the German electronics manufacturer, yesterday insisted that Britain's opt-out from European social legislation played no part in its decision to invest £1 billion in a new manufacturing plant in the UK.

Government ministers strongly maintain that Britain's opt-out from the social protocol of the Maastricht Treaty, which was negotiated by the Prime Minister, is central to companies investing in the UK in what the Conservatives claim is a principal success for the Government.

Ministers, including Mr Major and Michael Heseltine, Deputy Prime Minister, cite Siemens as a clear example of Britain's role as the enterprise centre of Europe. But yesterday, Siemens said the opt-out did not in any way affect its investment move.

Jürgen Gehrels, Siemens chief executive, told the BCC conference that the Siemens decision did reflect the pro-business environment created in Britain over the last 10-15 years, but that specifically excluded the EU social chapter. He said: "Britain's opt-out of this part of the Maastricht treaty had no impact whatsoever on our decision. This is not some kind of sweat shop we are creating in North Tyneside. It is as high-tech as any facility, Siemens or otherwise, anywhere in the world."

He said the social chapter was "a bit of red herring," which could actually conceal the progress that Britain had made and he reinforced the value of his criticism of the social chapter by supporting the UK Government's economic policies, which he said were now becoming a role model for others to follow in Europe.

But he echoed Labour's claims when he said: "I do not believe that the United Kingdom has any future at all as a low-wage, low-skill economy," pointing out that labour costs in the Czech Republic were 7 per cent of United Kingdom costs, and those in China a "mere fraction" of them.

He said: "So if we were to compete on that basis, we would not stand a chance of winning." Britain had to compete on high-value innovation and training.

Mr Gehrels also insisted that Britain had to take part in monetary union. He said: "The economic policy for Britain has to include monetary union. I see no realistic alternative." He attacked as a "serious lack of vision" those in Britain arguing for a withdrawal from the EU.

Howard Davies, Deputy Governor of the Bank of England, said it was "essential" that Britain is prepared for a single European currency, and added that planning in Britain for the financial infrastructure of the Euro was already well advanced.

## BUSINESS ROUNDUP

### South West to face foul water lawsuit

LEGAL action was yesterday launched against South West Water alleging that it supplied water unfit for human consumption. The company is accused of providing the foul water to areas of south Devon in August and September 1995, causing an outbreak of cryptosporidiosis. The illness, linked to a parasite, gave 575 people stomach upsets, severe abdominal pain and diarrhoea.

The case, brought by John Gummer, Environment Secretary, will come before Newton Abbot Magistrates' Court on August 6. It follows investigations by the Drinking Water Inspectorate, to be published after the case. After the stomach bug outbreak, South West issued a boiled water notice.

### Standard details sale

STANDARD LIFE, Europe's largest mutual insurer, yesterday confirmed that a syndicate of leading City houses has been formed to distribute most of its 33 per cent stake, worth about £750 million, in Bank of Scotland. Lazard Frères and BZW have been appointed as joint global co-ordinators. Institutional investors worldwide can expect to see the offer document on July 9, then a series of roadshows involving senior management of the Bank of Scotland. The price will be decided after an international bookbuilding exercise in about three weeks' time.

### Vodafone chief's rise

SIR GERALD WHENT, chief executive of Vodafone, the largest mobile phone company, saw his salary and benefits package rise 7 per cent to £600,000 this year. The figure excludes £210,000 in pension contributions, up from £194,000 in 1995. He also has 2.1 million share options with an average exercise price of 115p, against Vodafone's closing price of 245p, up 3p. Next was Chris Gent, managing director, whose salary and benefits rose to £350,000 from £322,000. Mr Gent has 618,000 share options at an average 175p.

### Orange numbers grow

ORANGE, the mobile phone company, added 85,000 new customers in the second quarter and said it expects to keep expanding at a similar rate. The increase has taken Orange's total subscribers to 573,000 compared to 193,000 at the same time last year. Tressan McCarthy, an analyst at Panmure Gordon, said 28,000 new customers a month compared with 35,000 formerly was "slightly disappointing" and reflected the lower tariffs introduced by Vodafone and Cellnet. Orange shares closed at 219½p, down 5½p.

### Cookson acquisition

COOKSON, the specialist industrial materials group, has bought Camelot Systems, a leading US manufacturer of automated liquid dispensing systems. Cookson paid £37 million in cash and deferred payments may take the total cost to £65 million. Camelot, which is based in Haverhill, Massachusetts, designs and manufactures equipment which applies materials to electronic circuits. It made a profit of £5 million in the year ended December 31 and had net assets of £2.2 million. Cookson shares closed down 3p at 281p.

### Meconic buys Phoenix

MECONIC, the specialist manufacturer of fine chemicals, has agreed to buy Phoenix Chemicals for a maximum of £18 million. Meconic will pay an initial consideration of £6 million in cash and shares, with a maximum deferred consideration of £12 million payable by May 2000. Meconic also announced a rise in pre-tax profits to £5.8 million from £4.2 million for the year to May 3. Earnings rose 32 per cent to 12p a share. A final dividend of 3.35p a share makes a maiden total of 5p.

### Hartstone hit by US loss

HARTSTONE, the leather goods and hosiery company, saw profits slide to just £39,000 before tax from £4.7 million in the year to March 31. The main reason was a loss of £3.8 million at Michael Stevens, an American subsidiary, arising from stock write-downs as the company acted to clear surplus inventories. There was a loss of 0.2p a share, compared with earnings of 1.8p in the previous year. An unchanged final dividend of 0.32p makes a total of 0.48p (0.32p).

### Dixon Motors cash call

DIXON MOTORS, the motor retailer based in the north of England, is raising £12.75 million through a rights issue to fund an acquisition and the current capital expenditure programme. Dixon is buying Gordon Plunkett Group, a nationwide automotive parts distribution business with four motor factoring outlets, for £6.04 million. Dixon is offering investors one new share for every three held at 220p each. It has forecast profits of not less than £2.3 million for the half-year to June 30. The shares rose 6p to 264p.

## TOURIST RATES

	Bank Days	Bank Savers	Mails
Australia S	2.08	1.92	0.603
Australia P	1.71	18.21	2.24
Belgium Fr	51.94	47.94	2.25
Canada S	2.23	2.070	8.87
Cyprus Cyp	0.765	0.706	236.50
Denmark Kr	5.12	5.02	0.52
Finland Mak	7.02	7.17	193.50
France Fr	8.43	7.75	10.19
Germany DM	2.23	2.23	1.20
Greece Dr	2.95	2.95	1.20
Hong Kong S	12.69	11.69	1.20
Ireland P	1.02	0.94	1.20
Ireland S	2.02	2.02	1.20
Iraq Dinar	2495	2342	1.20
Japan Yen	185.50	169.50	1.554

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

## Inchcape

Inchcape, the international distribution group will be moving from its current address - King Street, London, SW1 - on 5 July. From the 8 July the Group's new headquarters will be at the following address:

33 Cavendish Square  
London  
W1M 9HF

Telephone Number: 0171 546 0022  
Fax Number: 0171 546 0010

## Offshore accounts closer

By PHILIP JEUNE AND JON ASHWORTH

BRITISH accountants yesterday moved a step nearer offshore registration when Jersey gave tentative support to limited liability partnerships. The island's parliament voted 25 to 19 to let firms re-register in Jersey, allowing partners to protect personal assets from legal action.

Detailed provisions must be debated before the proposals become law. The move was welcomed by Ernst & Young, one of the first UK firms to express interest in moving offshore. Price Waterhouse has also supported such a move. KPMG has chosen a different route, making its audit practice a limited company.

There was strong opposition from Jersey politicians who fear that the change would imperil the standing of the island's finance centre, but Peter Horsfall, finance committee president, said Jersey would benefit. Such a change would be the first of its kind in Europe and would follow reforms in US states.

## British Gas launches new attack over price controls

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY



Clare Spottiswoode was accused yesterday of interventionist tactics by an irate British Gas

## Ireland boosts GDP to more than 10%

FROM EILEEN McCABE IN DUBLIN

IRELAND achieved an impressive 10.1 per cent growth in gross domestic product in 1995 compared with a revised 6.6 per cent for the previous year, according to figures released yesterday by the Central Statistics Office.

Growth in gross national product for 1995 was significantly lower at 7.3 per cent (7.4 per cent). The CSO has adopted new procedures in the treatment of the profits and royalty payments of foreign-owned companies.

Personal expenditure increased 5.8 per cent, while Government expenditure grew 5.4 per cent. In real terms, the respective increase was 3.7 per cent and 3.0 per cent respectively.

The value of exports of goods and services increased 19.3 per cent, while the value of imports for 1995 increased 16.9 per cent.

The CSO also revealed yesterday that Ireland's current account surplus was £1.880 million in 1995, down from £1.954 million in the previous year.

## Regulator warning to Ulster generators

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

NORTHERN IRELAND'S generators will be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission unless they yield to regulatory and contractual changes that will combine to bring down electricity prices.

Douglas McIlroy, electricity regulator for Northern Ireland, said prices could be reduced by 10 per cent with co-operation from the industry. Charges in Northern Ireland are 20-30 per cent higher than in the mainland UK. The charges levied by Northern Ireland Electricity, the region-

al company, will fall under regulatory curbs. But 60 per cent of the costs depend on charges made by the generators with which the company has long-term contracts.

Mr McIlroy said he needed the co-operation of the industry to push through changes. Without it, he said, "the choice is between accepting a situation which is manifestly unsatisfactory with regard to price as well as anti-competitive, or asking the Monopolies and Mergers Commission to examine the industry."

## US rate rise hangs in balance

BY JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE Federal Reserve began a two-day meeting yesterday to discuss interest rates. Its decision is thought to be finely balanced between leaving American rates unchanged and nudging them higher to cool strong economic growth.

Early this week, a poll by Reuters showed that 27 out of 31 economists surveyed believed that rates would be left unchanged while four thought that they would be raised by a quarter point. But after two strong economic reports yesterday, two former members of the policy-making federal open market committee

homes jumped to their fastest rate in more than a decade in May in spite of higher mortgage rates. The sales rose 7.5 per cent after a gain of 5.9 per cent in April. The May rise was completely against Wall Street expectations. In addition, the Conference Board's index of leading economic indicators, designed to predict economic trends six to nine months ahead, rose 0.3 per cent in May, the fourth consecutive month in which economic activity seems to have grown.

The dollar yesterday passed the Y110 level for the first time since January 1994.

## PROPOSALS FOR THE CONTINUATION OF THE COMPANY

### PLACING AND OPEN OFFER

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SBC Warburg

A Division of Salomon Brothers Inc.

### PROPOSALS FOR THE CONTINUATION OF THE COMPANY

### OF UP TO 10,340,792 UNITS

### OF NEW ZERO COUPON CONVERTIBLE UNSECURED SUBORDINATED LOAN STOCK 2003/06

### SERIES 2

### CASH EXIT FACILITY

A prospectus relating to American Opportunity Trust, PLC (the "Company") dated 1 July 1996 (the "Prospectus") has been filed with the London Stock Exchange for the New Stock to be issued pursuant to the Placing and Open Offer and any New Shares issued pursuant to the Cash Exit Facility to be admitted to the Official List.

American Opportunity

Trust PLC

(incorporated in England and Wales with registered number 2338053)

Placing and Open Offer

sponsored by

SBC Warburg

A Division of Salomon Brothers Inc.

PROPOSALS FOR THE CONTINUATION OF THE COMPANY

OF UP TO 10,340,792 UNITS

OF NEW ZERO COUPON

CONVERTIBLE UNSECURED

SUBORDINATED LOAN STOCK 2003/06

Vital warnings that were disregarded  Facing up to the Ofgas onslaught  'Independent' directors who may not be

HAD a lowly buying clerk not been sacked from the Dutch office of Wickes a couple of weeks ago, the DIY chain would still be one of the stock market's best regarded performers, admired for its ability to defy gravity in a disastrous area of retail.

It is, after all, only weeks since WH Smith handed over £63.5 million to get out of the DIY business. There is a strong temptation to blame City analysts, who are supposed to be able to spot these disasters coming. Unfair, because it is now emerging that the analysts did just that, and were given the brush-off. Specifically, they asked about the accounting treatment of various payments by suppliers to the company. The reply came that these were treated "conservatively". The truth is clearly the opposite.

As you browse the shelves at your local supermarket, such big retailers might seem the purest form of free market. Fierce rivalry on the high street means that only the best goods, and the most competitively priced, fight their way onto the shelves, surely? Quite wrong. Retailing is a jungle, and all manner of underhand tricks and near-bribes are used to push the suppliers' product onto those shelves. The problem comes in knowing how to take those payments into profits.

## DIY approach to Wickes accounts

Wickes seems to have taken the least conservative route while claiming the opposite, and this was widely suspected. Consider this quotation from an unnamed DIY goods manufacturer in *DIY Week*. "I wonder if Wickes shareholders are aware," he writes, "that part of this year's profit is a contribution for sales anticipated through to 1996." The date is November 1994.

There is not much of an analyst can do if he is being misled, deliberately or because management themselves are kept in the dark, save to move the shares' stock market rating down a few notches to take into account the uncertainty. Take Poly Peck. No one could work out how the margins being boasted of were being achieved; this was because they were not.

Two questions now are central. We know the mis-statement of profits goes back as far as 1990. Why, given the suspicions referred to above, was it not picked up by the then finance director, Trevor Llewellyn, now at Caradon, or the auditor, Arthur Andersen? Mr Llewellyn is not answering questions directly, but Caradon's public relations firm says on his behalf that he had no suspicions up to the end of 1994. He presumably checked out the analysts' doubts and found they were unfounded. He was wrong. Why?

The second is the position of suppliers. Wickes has about 200 of these, and as many as 60 are under investigation. Did they collude in the cover-up, in return for their products being displayed on Wickes' shelves?

This financial disaster goes beyond the affairs of a small if spectacularly successful retail chain, because the practices it used are so common throughout the retail trade. It is about time other retailers answered some searching questions.

### Gas needs to fight on two fronts

SHARES in British Gas have scarcely recovered since they were hit by neo-socialist twin price cut proposals from Ofgas. At 180½p, they trade about 14 per cent lower in real terms than when shares were first sold to the

market to new competitors.

The combination of cutting profits on existing sales and ensuring that sales will fall as part of a multi-utility such as the generator PowerGen.

replacing equity with loans. The trading business should end up as part of a multi-utility such as the generator PowerGen.

### Raising questions in the boardroom

COMPLYING with the letter of the Cadbury and Greenbury committee recommendations is all very well. But according to Manifest, the agency set up to promote shareholder activism by institutional investors, much of British industry is merely paying lip service to current ideas of good corporate governance.

Manifest has found that many of the "independent" directors on the boards of corporate Britain are not quite as independent as they seem. There are a whole raft of former directors, or partners of the company's lawyers, or delegates from its accountants or the merchant bank or even the odd family retainer turning up as non-executives. Whether these people really question the chief executive on anything but the timing of lunch has to be open to debate.

Pennington's favourite example is the property group Great Portland Estates. Norman Ford joined the board as an independent director in 1991. He just happened to have been company secretary since the company was formed in 1957. When he started the group's finance director, John Whitley, was not yet born.

Mr Ford sits on both the audit and remuneration committees, where he polices Richard Peskin, the group's chairman and managing director (no splitting of roles here). The two have shared a boardroom since 1968.

Good corporate governance is designed to ensure companies perform well. Great Portland shares have, as it happens, underperformed the market by a third over the past two years.

### Room with a view

EVER wondered why you always end up in the room overlooking the municipal waste tip on business trips? A survey from hotels group has uncovered the hidden hand that controls the £2.5 billion business travel market. Three out of four bosses rely entirely on their secretaries for travel arrangements. And your secretary, as those polled admitted, is being bribed by travel firms with treats such as tickets to Wimbledon and the Chelsea Flower Show.

## Berkeley gives election warning

By PAUL DURMAN

BERKELEY GROUP, one of Britain's best-regarded house-builders, yesterday said that the uncertainty caused by the forthcoming general election could cost the building industry the equivalent of two months' sales.

With turnover running at about £30 million a month, Berkeley is preparing for the possible loss of £60 million of sales. Tony Pidgeley, managing director, said: "There will be a two-month period when a large percentage of the (house-buying) public will sit on their hands."

But Berkeley expects any hiatus in the housing market recovery to be short-lived. Roger Lewis, finance director, said a temporary fall in sales could throw up huge opportunities to buy land cheaply, as other house-builders scale back their purchases. Berkeley is well-placed to take advantage since it has no borrowings and, after its January rights issue, net cash of £35.6 million.

Berkeley, which mainly builds expensive "executive" homes, was reporting a 15.3 per cent rise in annual pre-tax profits to £43.4 million. Sales for the year to April 30 were 18 per cent ahead at £334 million. Earnings rose by 10.8 per cent

to 34.8p a share. The number of properties sold increased from 1,411 to 1,560, with the average price rising from £190,000 to £208,000.

This year has also begun well, with reservations 20 per cent ahead of last year.

Mr Pidgeley said he did not believe a Labour Government would be bad for the housing market, at least not initially. He said, judging from the opinion polls, "there will be a certain amount of 'feel-good' factor which does not seem to be there with the Tories".

While Berkeley is seeing solid rises in house prices, particularly in London, the company sets much more store by building the right properties with features people want. Mr Pidgeley said: "If it's in the right location and it's what people want, people will pay for it. It's not price sensitive."

Among the standard features are double-glazing, smoke alarms, hi-fi wiring and cast iron baths. Security features are also increasingly important.

Berkeley is paying a final dividend of 6.2p, increasing the total payout by 9.6 per cent to 8.5p a share.

Tempus, page 30

## Profits hit new heights at Atkins

By FRASER NELSON

WS ATKINS, the international engineering group set for a £200 million flotation this month, returned record profits of £22 million before tax and exceptional items for the year to March 31, a 20 per cent rise.

The group, which issued its pathfinder prospectus yesterday, lifted sales 20 per cent to £236 million, helped by a six-week contribution of £4.4 million from Faithful & Gould, the construction consultants, bought in February for £21 million. The acquisition of Cedac and PowerTrack, the railway infrastructure groups, led to £3.5 million in restructuring expenses.

Atkins first planned to float in 1990, but pulled out six days before the placing when Iraq invaded Kuwait, leaving 25 of its staff hostages. It was then expected to be valued at £50 million, a quarter of what it is expected to reach now. Dealings are set to start on July 25.

## Marston's in branded pubs drive

By ALASDAIR MURRAY

MARSTON, Thompson & Everard, the pubs and brewing company, said yesterday that it would be looking to build up a series of branded pub chains.

Marston's made its first foray into that end of the market when it bought the Pitcher and Piano chain last week for £20 million. It hopes to double the number of Pitcher outlets to 14 by the end of this year and aims to expand its branded interests further, either through acquisition or by converting houses in its existing estate.

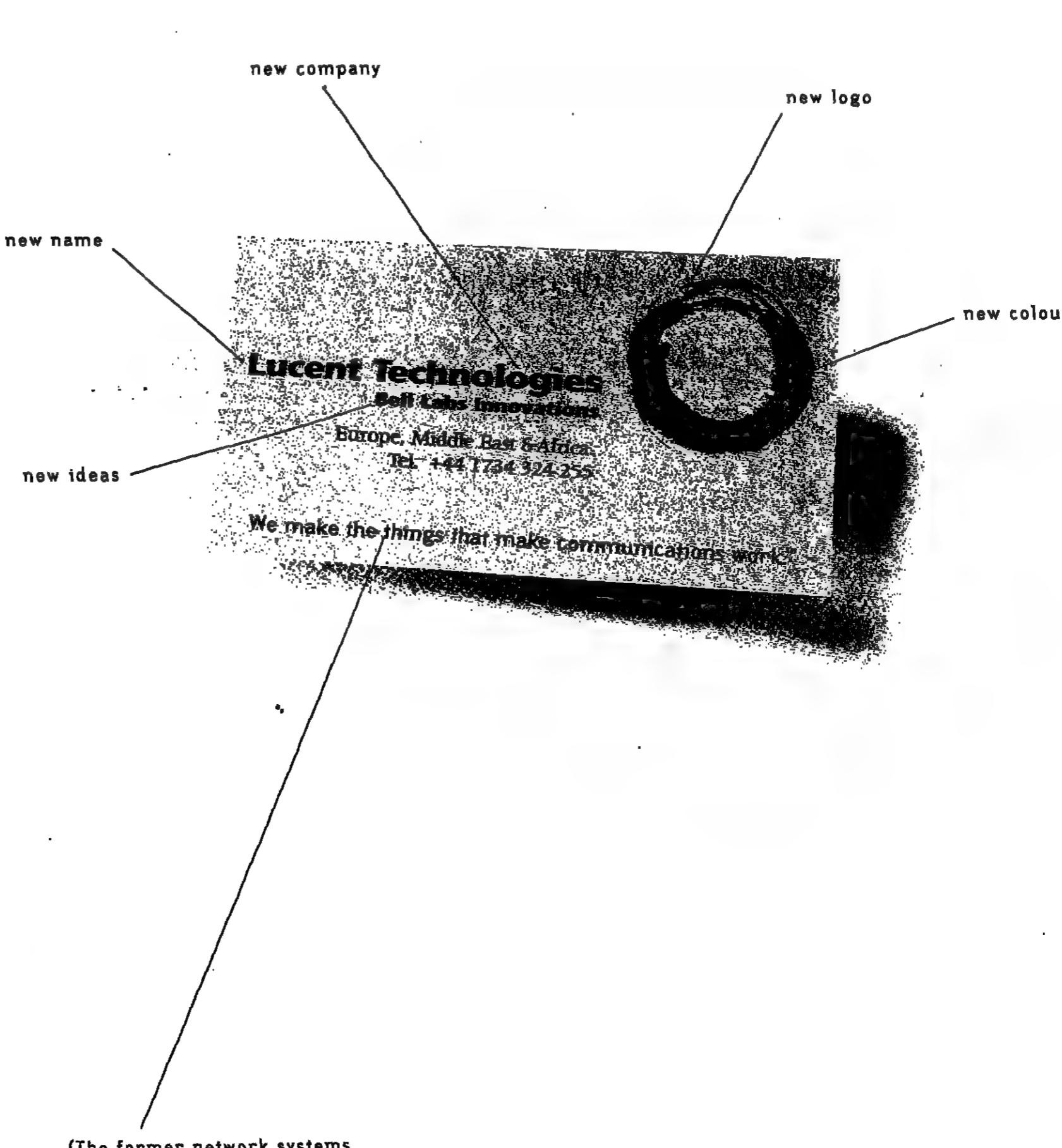
Marston's unveiled an 11 per cent rise in full-year pre-tax profits to £27 million. Beer volumes increased by 3.4 per cent with a 14 per cent rise in off-trade sales. Retail division profits rose 25 per cent boosted by strong food sales. The total dividend rises 11 per cent to 7.3p. An unchanged final of 4.5p is payable on August 10.

## Inspirations slides

By PAUL DURMAN

INSPIRATIONS, the tour operator, yesterday unveiled plans to raise £12.1 million and buy a skiing holidays firm. The company also announced a sharp increase in losses to £13.2 million before tax, from £3.6 million, for the half-year to the end of March.

The fund raising, via a rights issue of convertible preference shares, will enable Inspirations to pay up to £1.75 million for Skiers World, a



(The former network systems,  
business communications systems  
and microelectronics divisions  
of AT&T, powered by Bell Labs R&D:  
still the largest supplier of  
telecommunications systems in the  
world). Call our European Response  
Centre on 01734 324 255. Or explore  
Lucent Technologies on the Web  
Wide Web at <http://www.lucent.com>



MICHAEL CLEARY

## Renamed Argyll launches £207m share buyback

**ARGYLL** Britain's third biggest supermarket chain, was not letting the grass grow under its feet. In the space of just an hour yesterday Argyll shareholders agreed to a change of name and voted to allow the company to buy back up to 10 per cent of its own shares in a move designed to provide better value.

But before shareholders at the group's annual meeting had even finished dispersing, Argyll's brokers had begun plundering the market-place for sellers of stock. In the end at all, BZW and rival Panmure Gordon had spent £207 million, or 346p a share, for 60 million shares, or 5½ per cent of the company. The company will now be known as Safeway.

The change of name is unlikely to result in any improvement in market conditions. Sir Alistair Grant, chairman, told shareholders that trading remained difficult. Sales in some stores may be up 6·4 per cent, but margins have fallen. The shares finished 3p easier at 346p. By the close of business 12·8 million Argyll shares had changed hands, swelling stock market turnover to 749 million.

The rest of the equity market failed to make headway on the back of a 7·5-point rise in the Dow Jones average overnight. London saw an early lead of almost 19 points whittled away in the wake of opening falls in New York, to close virtually unchanged. The FTSE 100 index finished 0·1 points up at 3,725·7.

In banks, HSBC rose 15p to £10·28 as James Capel, its in-house broker, upgraded its profit numbers and labelled the shares the most "preferable in the sector". Capel has lifted its estimate for the full year from £4·1 billion to £4·43 billion. It has based its calculations on the improved outlook for margins, with demand for loans in Hong Kong picking up. Costs are also being kept under tight control.

Some impressive new subscriber figures failed to halt the slide in shares of Orange, the mobile telephone operator, which ended 5·1p cheaper at 219·1p. During the second quarter the figure grew to 573,000, an increase of 380,000 over the corresponding period last year. The sector has been overshadowed by worries about a slowdown in the growth of the mobile phone



Mark Swaby, centre, of Brasway, which rose 2·1p, with Tim Barker, finance director, right, and Ken Webb, chief executive.

market. This was reflected in recent figures from Securicor, 4p better at 279p, which jointly owns rival Cellnet along with BT. It better at 343p. Instead the buyers switched into Vodafone, up 3p at 245·1p, on recent subscriber figures.

ADT, the Bermuda-based car auctions and security specialist, came off the boil, falling 20p to £13·50. The

started life at 123p before closing at 118p on turnover of almost four million shares, for a premium of 28p. At these levels the group is capitalised at £37·8 million.

One housebuilder that does not appear to have noticed the slump is Berkeley Group, up 3p at 617p. Full-year figures may have been towards the lower end of brokers' fore-

casts but were still impressive with pre-tax profits of £2·55 million at Brasway, the hydraulics specialist, received a warm reception from brokers as the price was marked 2·1p better at 24·1p. The company is confident of further strong growth in the current year. Mark Swaby, chairman, says the group is reaping the benefits of recent moves to cut costs.

□ **GILT-EDGE:** The market failed to hold on to an early mark-up with prices drifting off on the back of weaker US treasury bonds, upset by news that house sales had risen to a ten-year high.

The one bright spot was the index-linked market, where prices rose by up to 1½%, enabling the Bank of England to sell off remaining supplies of the new tablet. Treasury Index-Linked 2½% per cent

rose 10p to 170·7p each, just below last month's placing price of 170p. The sale raised £7·1 million.

More than doubled pre-tax profits of £2·55 million at Brasway, the hydraulics specialist, received a warm reception from brokers as the price was marked 2·1p better at 24·1p. The company is confident of further strong growth in the current year. Mark Swaby, chairman, says the group is reaping the benefits of recent moves to cut costs.

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In the futures pit, the September series of the long gilt traded in narrow limits of between 1106½-1107½ and 1106¾-1108 before closing unchanged at 1106½ as a total of 41,000 contracts were completed.

In longs, Treasury 8 per cent 2015 put on a couple of ticks at 971½-98, while at the short end Treasury 8 per cent 2000 rose by a similar amount to 1013½-102.

□ **NEW YORK:** More bad news from the technology sector discouraged investors on Wall Street once more and by midday the Dow Jones industrial average was 19·21 points lower at 5,710·77.

Shares open interest of 500,000

### MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):  
Dow Jones 5710.77 (+19.21)  
S&P Composite 673.48 (-1.59)

Tokyo:  
Nikkei Average 2247.97 (-10.52)

Hong Kong:  
Hang Seng 11064.43 (+81.82)

Amsterdam:  
EEX Index 559.45 (-0.58)

Sydney:  
ASX 2256.10 (-11.2)

Frankfurt:  
DAX 2572.25 (+4.25)

Singapore:  
SMSI 2273.46 (-18.07)

Brussels:  
General 980.75 (+0.05)

Paris:  
CAC-40 2111.80 (-0.95)

Zurich:  
SIXX Gen 802.30 (-0.03)

London:  
FT 30 2737.0 (-0.2)

FT 100 3725.7 (-0.1)

FTSE Mid 250 4376.0 (+5.6)

FTSE-Saxo 350 1878.8 (+0.0)

FT All-share 100 180.34 (+0.58)

FT Non Financials 908.54 (-0.68)

FT Fixed Interest 112.53 (+0.41)

FT Govt Secs 92.91 (+0.10)

Bangors:  
SEPA Volume 218.99 (closed)

USX 1.5662 (+0.005)

German Mark 2.3759 (+0.0051)

Exchange Index 86.7 (+0.2)

Bank of England official close 14pm:

ECU 1.4023 (+0.0003)

RPM 152.9 May (2.2%) Jun 1987-100

RPM 152.5 May (2.8%) Jun 1987-100

RECENT ISSUES

Biocompatibles Wts 47  
Carlisle Wts 8½  
City Technology 218  
Flame Group (100) 116  
Globe & Mail 101  
Gold Mines Sardinia 19  
Gold Mins Sardinia 9  
IES (28) 265nd  
IES Warrants 250  
Independent Brit HI 70nd  
Independent Energy 108  
Independent Env 85  
Jarvis Hotels (175) 174  
Lands Improvement 121  
Maris Healthcare 110  
Pace Micro Tech 193  
SEA Multimedia (70) 75  
Sinclair Montrouz 167  
Solid State Supplier 90  
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Sun Life & Pensions 222  
The Fennell (118) 118  
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Whitard of Chelsea 153

Closing Prices Page 33

### TEMPOS

## Improved formula

TEMPOS highlighted the cash flow and cash surplus of Boots last week, so it was pleasing to see that the group yesterday came up with some ideas on how it was going to spend the money. Boots disclosed it was spending £300 million on its chemists chain, the first time it has given a breakdown of investment in the chemists shops.

Whatever problems Boots may have as a retailing group, as a chemist it appears unassassable. Steve Russell, who became managing director of Boots the Chemists less than a year ago, yesterday indicated subtle changes in the strategy but nothing to frighten wary investors. The company was reassessing about plans to expand abroad, admitting that it has a large team on the project but saying it has no intention of doing anything hasty.

### Berkeley

LIKE many successful businessmen, Tony Pidgley, managing director of the housebuilder Berkeley Group, makes it all seem ridiculously easy. Thus Berkeley's reputation-making sale of its land holdings at the top of the property market in 1989 was no more than common sense.

The company clearly benefits by catering for the wealthier customers who can afford its luxury homes. But it is also prepared to take on imaginative projects overlooked by other developers. Barnes Waterside, a joint venture development with Thames Water in south west London, is one good example. It is also intriguing that Berkeley is planning to turn Alexander Fleming House, a south London eyesore previously occupied by the

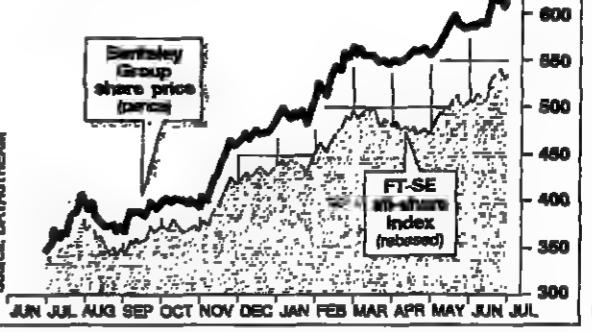
DHSS, into an apartment complex complete with restaurants and bonsai garden.

Berkeley yesterday sounded a cautionary note about the impact of the next general election. But with strong forward sales, it is still expected to increase pre-tax profits once again to around £55 million. And following its recent £73 million share

issue, the company is well-placed to take advantage of any weakening in land prices.

It is difficult to fault Berkeley's record and its shareholders have been well-rewarded. Although the shares have already performed strongly over the last year, at 617p they continue to look sound value.

### BUILDING BOOM?



### Marston

MARSTON'S epitomises the problems faced by the regional brewers since the Government changed the rules of the game at the beginning of the decade.

The company lacks the marketing and trade clout of the leading brewers but has been sidestepped in the retail trade by the more innovative start-up companies that have proliferated in the past few years.

There is nothing fundamentally wrong with either Marston's beers or its estate. The Marston's Pedigree beer is a reliable if slightly dull brand and the company has worked hard at improving its estate and increasing the proportion of food sales, which now stand at an impressive 29 per cent.

But for more rapid growth, Marston's is relying on its belated entry into the branded pub market and the recent launch of Marston's Smoothbrow.

shareholders yesterday Argyll went into the stock market to buy 60 million of its own shares at 346p.

However, mopping up about 5·25 per cent of the group's shares merely increases earnings per share by about 1 per cent, but will add about 17 percentage points to gearing which is likely to hit 30 per cent as a result of the manoeuvre.

Argyll, in keeping with the rest of the food retailing sector is approaching the point where it becomes cash neutral, which raises in turn the question of what to do with the money.

Buying in shares at anything up to 600p would have been earnings enhancing, in line with policy of Sir Alistair Grant, the chairman, of "maximising shareholder value".

City retail analysts, however, believe that it will take a more imaginative corporate strategy at Safeway to help it to catch up with the food retail sector leaders.

Yorkshire Tyne-Tees Television leapt 75p to 112·38 with the warrants 72p better at £10.30 on talk of a bid anytime from Granada, which this year paid £34 billion for Forte. The speculators say Granada, with 24 per cent of Yorkshire, is ready to offer £14 a share, valuing the company at £731 million.

price soared almost 400p on Monday after announcing terms of a £3 billion bid from Republic Industries in the US, worth more than £16 a share. First-time dealings in Vocalis Group, the group which specialises in automated systems, got off to an impressive start following a placing by Albert E Sharp, the broker, at 95p. The shares

casts, but were still impressive with pre-tax profits of 16·4 per cent at £43·3 million. The City is excited about prospects for the group.

However, a profits downgrade by SBC Warburg, the broker, left George Wimpey 12p cheaper at 147p. It has cut its profit estimate for the current year by £4 million to £37 million and by a similar

amount for next year to £36 million. It is urging clients to switch into Barratt Developments, 2p better at 264p.

The City gave a lukewarm response to full-year figures from Marston's, Thompson and Everard, the regional brewer, famous for its Pedigree Bitter. Pre-tax profits rose to £27·3 million compared with £24·5 million last time. Last week Marston paid almost £20 million for the Pitcher and Piano chain of pubs. The shares were flat at 31·3p, down 4p.

Newcomer Jarvis Hotels firm up to 174p at Candover, the venture capitalist, disposed of its 25 per cent stake in the company via an institutional placing. UBS and RBC Warburg placed the 43 million shares with various institutions at 170p each, just below last month's placing price of 170p. The sale raised £7·1 million.

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Shares open interest of 500,000

HSBC: 1000-1000-1000-1000

HSBC: 1000-1

THE  
TIMES  
  
CITY  
DIARY

**Grants go for a double**

SIR ALISTAIR GRANT was in a celebratory mood yesterday — as was his wife. On the day that the Argyll Group changed its name to Safeway, Sir Alistair, who founded the supermarket group 19 years ago, said "good-bye" to his staff and stood down as chairman. Meanwhile, Lady Grant's 14-year-old horse, called Compah, came first in the Working Hunters Race at the Royal Show.

**Mexican waif**

ANOTHER new investment trust, another "original" theme for Schroder to sell it on the back of. This week it's Schroder Emerging Countries Fund. What a shameful opportunity for the fund managers to illustrate their latest project with glossy photographs of a hungry-looking Orphan Annie-like figure, and an un-named vegetable market. According to a Schroder spokeswoman: "I think they were taken in Mexico, but the photographer can't remember exactly where. I should imagine one market in Mexico looks much like another."



'Mexican' orphan

**Water on brain**

BARRIE WELLS, the bespectacled managing director of Prospero Direct, the direct insurance-selling arm of Provincial Insurance, is brimming with new ideas after a trip to Japan. Always on the lookout for non-smoking clean-living "careful people", Mr Wells was excited to discover a masterful Japanese invention — a £4 portable zebra crossing. Mr Wells also fell for a giant parasol that the Japanese fit to the roof of their cars in a bid to protect them from the sun. On his travels, he spotted something that he thinks the chairman of Yorkshire Water might well find useful — an upside down umbrella worn as a hat and attached via a tube to a handbag to collect rainwater.

**Lloyd's on form**

LLOYD'S names are working themselves into a terrible lather. Within days they must fill in two colourful proxy forms, having been sent a 16-page guide on how to use the enclosed documentation, and a covering letter from David Rowland, Lloyd's of London chairman, indicating which way members should vote on the proposed recovery plan. The yellow proxy form, which relates to the ordinary general meeting on July 15 and the vote on special contributions, and the grey proxy form, which relates to the extra-ordinary general meeting on the same day and the four resolutions tabled, have caused much confusion. Breathe deep, and take heed of the covering letter — think "yes" for yellow, and "no" for grey.

CITY diners at that favourite watering hole, Bill Bentley's, were aghast to see a mouse weave its way between their tables. Between squeaks and squeaks, a waitress at the Old Broad Street restaurant said the health inspector was a regular visitor. Referring to the mouse, she added: "It's one of the family."

MORAG PRESTON

# Business agencies focus on their position in the future

**Calls for support by small firms are likely to continue, says Philip Bassett**

At the British Chambers of Commerce annual conference, which closes today, and at the annual gathering of the business-led Training and Enterprise Councils, which opens tomorrow, both a few miles from each other in Birmingham, political jousting is the order of the day. Indeed, the BCC's own promotional material portrays it as "politicians court business" at its conference. And indeed Tony Blair is speaking at a conference today, Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, did so yesterday and Gillian Shephard, Education Secretary, will speak at a business conference tomorrow and Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, the day after.

Business is increasingly interested in the coming election, if only because for the first time since 1979, more than one side has the ability to win. But business is also interested in what governments, of any political hue, can do for business. Not in the old sense of picking winners, which Labour will formally abandon tomorrow when Mr Blair publishes *Road to the Manifesto*, a policy document, but in what governments can do to help business to prosper.

Business Links, the one-stop shops for business services originally conceived by Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister, who set out his own view on industrial competitiveness in a lecture on manufacturing last night, fuse this week's BCC and Tec conferences.

Business Links — private-sector partnerships between local councils, chambers of commerce and Tecs — have grown remarkably since the first two opened in September 1993. By April last year, there were 27. They now number 81, with 228 outlets around the country, covering 96 per cent of all VAT-registered businesses in Britain.

The number of businesses using them has more than doubled over the past year, with almost 90,000 making use of them in the first three months of this year — nearly 7,000 different businesses every week, or almost 11 per cent of all businesses. Figures from the DTI show most use them for consultancy purposes, followed by business diagnostics.

Yet their public profile is relatively low. A computer scan of the contents of 28 newspapers over the past year shows them trailing other business bodies, especially the CBI. The Government is trying to counter this with a £2.5 million national advertising campaign for BLs, using 2,000 poster sites around the country last month and this, with pictures of butterflies, swans and oak trees and the messages caterpillars, ugly ducklings and acorns wanted.

They have some way to go. The Government heard during a consultation exercise from one small company: "Many small businesses still have not heard of the Business Link network and most do not know what it is or what it is supposed to do." Another said: "Those that are aware of Business Link think the quality of service is inconsistent across the network." And another said: "Most owner managers think that Business Links are just another government initiative and doubt that they will last long."

Ministers insist that among companies which have used them, customer satisfaction is high, with ratings of more than 90 per cent. A company such as LGG Charlesworth, a plastics maker in Malvern employing 75, believes that advice from its local Link has helped its business. So too does Paszak, a West Country pasta caterer, which has seen its production treble since using its local

Link. Or Chillingham Associates, an eight-person business producing almost 11,000 of Birmingham's 27,000 companies, affecting almost a quarter of a million workers. Alan Dow, its director, said: "Success to date has been very satisfying. But there is more work to be done. We are constantly seeking new ways to reach the target market, and do what we set out to do — help their businesses grow."

The Government agrees that for services to business generally, there is more work to be done. As part of last month's third White Paper on competitiveness, Mr Lang launched a radical revision of government-supplied business services, currently absorbing a budget of some £264 million, with direct support for Business Links amounting to £50 million.

Mr Lang emphasises the importance of business to local initiatives such as the Links, telling yesterday's BCC conference that they "are not creatures of a central plan". But Barbara Roche, Shadow Small Firms Minister, says: "The setting-up of Business Links has been totally mishandled by the Government." Labour, in its forthcoming industrial policy document, says it will refocus the network.

Business Links will, however, receive broad cross-party support in a report due to be published this month by the all-party Commons Trade and Industry Select Committee. MPs travelled round the country taking evidence, and a draft version of the report now being examined by MPs on the committee endorses Business Links, although its final report will make suggestions for improvements in their operation.

Birmingham's Business Link, sitting roughly halfway between the BCC and the Tec conferences, has been operating for some time. It offers 250 separate business support services, and says that, since opening almost three years ago, it

has assisted almost 11,000 of Birmingham's 27,000 companies, affecting almost a quarter of a million workers. Alan Dow, its director, said: "Success to date has been very satisfying. But there is more work to be done. We are constantly seeking new ways to reach the target market, and do what we set out to do — help their businesses grow."

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## BUSINESS LETTERS

### Time for MMC inquiry and more radical proposals on TransCo regulation

From Mr Roger G. Turner

Sir, Tempus was correct to say (June 15) that British Gas's response to Ofgas's proposals for TransCo's price control failed to address the substantive issues. Moreover, neither BG nor Mr Philip Rogerson (Business Letters, June 19) have, to date, come forward with any detailed proposals of their own other than an apparent wish that the current regulatory approach continued.

The 1993 MMC report on which much of Mr Rogerson's argument would appear to rely, has become regarded by many in the industry as appropriate only in the context of the rather limited experience of regulation at that time. The report addressed an integrated BG and, in part due to paucity of data, was unable to develop a cash flow analysis, being obliged instead to rely

on accounting data. Experience so far has shown that using accounting depreciation as a basis for TransCo price regulation gives the monopoly excessive advance payments. These have already amounted to £2 billion and will, if the present control is continued, add a further £3 billion. Whilst these monies are collected from TransCo's customers to fund the future renewal of the system, there is no obligation for BG to dedicate this cash for this purpose and customers could therefore pay twice.

Time has now moved on and so has the regulation of all the privatised utilities. TransCo now has its own accounts, and much more detailed evidence is available about its costs, revenues and forecasts. More than 15 major TransCo customers, including

ourselves, recently completed an extensive work on the TransCo review, and a full report by our consultants, Arthur Andersen, has been lodged with the regulator.

The report recommends a revenue sufficiency approach to regulation (a mechanism used by other regulated industries) which would secure not only the funding of all the necessary capital expenditure, but also a 40 per cent reduction in TransCo prices. Ofgas's proposals do not go as far as we would wish as the regulator is still proposing to allow TransCo to collect revenue well in advance of its actual expenditure forecasts.

Ofgas has said that the evidence for much tougher proposals is compelling, but that they worked hard to "get the numbers up". BG's reluctance to accept anything other

than the continuation of the current regime is disappointing and, we believe, unsustainable as the weight of reasoned argument is clearly against them. We believe that a further MMC inquiry would take account of all available evidence and reach a conclusion that greater price reductions should be demanded from the TransCo monopoly.

Many in the industry, including the prime consumer representative, the Gas Consumer Council, would also look to such an inquiry to address the structural problems of TransCo, problems that can be solved through the creation of TransCo as a separate legal entity.

Yours faithfully,  
ROGER TURNER  
(Managing Director,  
United Gas Company Ltd),  
21 Tothill Street, SW1.

### Price of water

From Elizabeth M Balsom

Sir, It is, of course, Tempus's remit to look at life from the perspective of maximising shareholder advantage, but the purity of predators' balance sheets is of little concern to the hard-pressed consumers of South West Water ("Paying the water bill", June 21).

My octogenarian mother lives in a small bungalow in Plymouth. For this privilege she must hand over to South West Water £430 a year. The falls in interest rates, which are so widely applauded, have slashed the income from her savings, and her water bill now represents about 5 per cent of her gross income.

Devon and Cornwall are not affluent counties. The price of one of life's most basic commodities is a constant subject of conversation. I know many people for whom the bills are a worry. For those whose supplies have been disrupted or who have had to boil their water, they are a disgrace. A 10 per cent cut in bills would be a relief, but not that much.

A glance at the prophetic map tells me that the price of water in the South West could be the thing that sends John Major to the back benches.

Yours faithfully,  
ELIZABETH M BALSOM,  
16 Coalecroft Road, SW15.

This advertisement is issued in compliance with the regulations of The London Stock Exchange Limited ("the London Stock Exchange"). Application has been made to the London Stock Exchange for the Convertible Preference Shares of Inspirations plc, to be issued pursuant to the Rights Issue, to be admitted to the Official List. It is emphasised that this advertisement does not constitute an offer or invitation to any person to subscribe for or to purchase securities. It is expected that dealings in the Convertible Preference Shares, nil paid, will commence on 26 July 1996.

### INSPIRATIONS plc

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### RIGHTS ISSUE SPONSORED BY BEESON GREGORY LIMITED

of 12,670,473 7.7 per cent. (net)

Convertible Preference Shares of 20p each to be issued at 100p per share

Share capital immediately following the Rights Issue

Amount	Number	Amount	Number
£5,280,000	32,380,000	£1,67,615.10	1,057,605
£2,534,045.60	12,670,473	17.7p per cent. (net) cumulative convertible preference shares	12,670,473

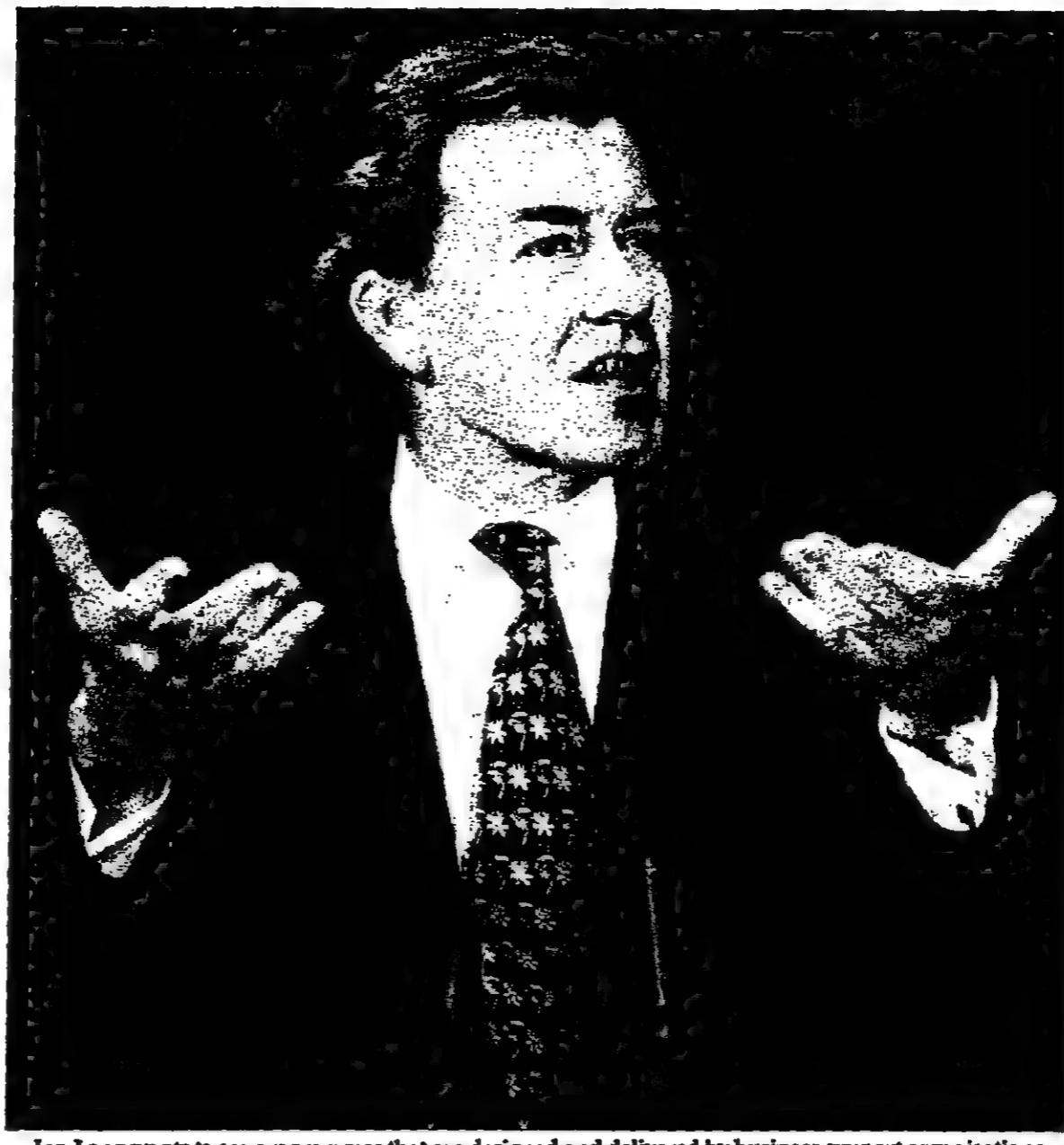
The principal activities of Inspirations plc are tour operating, aviation and retail travel agents.

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3 July 1996



Ian Lang wants to see programmes that are designed and delivered by business support organisations

# Comeback is beckoning for the forgotten friendly society

Sara McConnell sees self-help welfare climbing the agenda

Friendly societies are being dragged into the welfare funding debate as Labour explores the possibility of setting up a low-cost top-up pension fund to encourage more people to make their own provision.

Both sides of the political divide have now come to the painful conclusion that tinkering at the edges of the existing welfare system is no longer enough and that radical rethinking is necessary, particularly in the costliest areas, of pensions, long-stay care and support for the elderly.

An enhanced role for friendly societies in a new look welfare system would give them a much-needed boost. They spent years in the doldrums after being all but killed off by Nigel Lawson in 1984. Legislation in 1992 gave them some new powers, to offer general insurance and take deposits. However, regulations limit tax-exempt contributions to their policies to £25 a month.

Under the Labour vision, funds paid into these pensions would be invested by insurance companies and other private providers. Individuals would be able to identify their own pension "pot" in another step towards Labour's goal of a "mini-welfare system" administering State sickness benefit.

However, the societies have not had an unmarred history. Members of the Lancashire & Yorkshire will not forget its ill-judged venture into property investment through a low-risk fund not meant to hold property. Others have been criticised for high charges and poor performance. Marion Poole argues that the societies are more strictly regulated than ever before, but they are regulated under the same regime that let mis-selling of pensions grow into a scandal.

On top of this, Professor Yarrow's view that friendly societies are "more likely than profit-seeking companies to provide support based on need as well as strict entitlement" may raise eyebrows among those on the receiving end of strictly commercial conduct by mutual building societies and life companies, as well as by friendly societies.



Nigel Lawson proved deaf to friendly societies' wishes

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE									
Set Day	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue
AMERICAN UNIT TRUSTS LTD									
General Acc	129.90	131.80	+ 0.16	0.14					
General Equity	27.70	27.90	+ 0.10	0.10					
General Equit Bal	131.50	126.30	- 0.25	0.25					
General Japan	102.90	101.60	- 0.05	0.05					
General Japan	102.90	101.60	- 0.05	0.05					
ASA EQUITY & LEVY UNIT TRUST									
General Acc	104.00	105.90	+ 0.20	0.21					
General Acc	105.90	106.80	+ 0.09	0.21					
General Acc	106.80	107.70	+ 0.10	0.21					
General Acc	107.70	108.60	+ 0.09	0.21					
General Acc	108.60	109.50	+ 0.09	0.21					
General Acc	109.50	110.40	+ 0.09	0.21					
General Acc	110.40	111.30	+ 0.09	0.21					
General Acc	111.30	112.20	+ 0.09	0.21					
General Acc	112.20	113.10	+ 0.09	0.21					
General Acc	113.10	114.00	+ 0.09	0.21					
General Acc	114.00	114.90	+ 0.09	0.21					
General Acc	114.90	115.80	+ 0.09	0.21					
General Acc	115.80	116.70	+ 0.09	0.21					
General Acc	116.70	117.60	+ 0.09	0.21					
General Acc	117.60	118.50	+ 0.09	0.21					
General Acc	118.50	119.40	+ 0.09	0.21					
General Acc	119.40	120.30	+ 0.09	0.21					
General Acc	120.30	121.20	+ 0.09	0.21					
General Acc	121.20	122.10	+ 0.09	0.21					
General Acc	122.10	123.00	+ 0.09	0.21					
General Acc	123.00	123.90	+ 0.09	0.21					
General Acc	123.90	124.80	+ 0.09	0.21					
General Acc	124.80	125.70	+ 0.09	0.21					
General Acc	125.70	126.60	+ 0.09	0.21					
General Acc	126.60	127.50	+ 0.09	0.21					
General Acc	127.50	128.40	+ 0.09	0.21					
General Acc	128.40	129.30	+ 0.09	0.21					
General Acc	129.30	130.20	+ 0.09	0.21					
General Acc	130.20	131.10	+ 0.09	0.21					
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General Acc	147.30	148.20	+ 0.09	0.21					
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General Acc	168.10	169.00	+ 0.09	0.21					
General Acc	169.00	170.90	+ 0.09	0.21					
General Acc	170.90	171.80	+ 0.09	0.21					
General Acc	171.80	172.70	+ 0.09	0.21					
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General Acc	173.60	174.50	+ 0.09	0.21					
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General Acc	175.40	176.30	+ 0.09	0.21					
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General Acc	177.20	178.10	+ 0.09	0.21					
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General Acc	179.00	180.90	+ 0.09	0.21					
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General Acc	181.80	182.70	+ 0.09	0.21					
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General Acc	187.20	188.10	+ 0.09	0.21					
General Acc	188.10	189.00	+ 0.09	0.21					
General Acc	189.00	190.90	+ 0.09	0.21					
General Acc	190.90	191.80	+ 0.09	0.21					
General Acc	191.80	192.70	+ 0.09	0.21					
General Acc	192.70	193.60	+ 0.09	0.21					
General Acc	193.60	194.50	+ 0.09	0.21					

THE TIMES WEDNESDAY JULY 3 1996

## Equities mark time

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

High	Low	Company	Price	Up	Yield	P/E	High	Low	Company	Price	Up	Yield	P/E	High	Low	Company	Price	Up	Yield	P/E
<b>ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES</b>																				
556	401	Affl. Beers	251	+ 1	5.5	17.1	13	32	17.1	13	-2	5.5	17.1	13	32	17.1	13	-2	5.5	17.1
131	95	Bitter (B)	572	+ 5	5.5	17.9	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	17.9	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	17.9
275	615	Black & Tan	405	+ 1	5.5	16.7	13	32	17.1	13	-2	5.5	16.7	13	32	17.1	13	-2	5.5	16.7
254	433	Blacks	424	+ 2	5.5	16.7	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	16.7	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	16.7
377	315	Blacks (Std)	405	+ 1	5.5	16.7	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	16.7	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	16.7
125	625	Blacks (Wh)	157	- 1	5.5	12.3	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	12.3	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	12.3
125	625	Maltese Club	257	- 7	5.5	12.3	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	12.3	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	12.3
312	1704	S.A. Breweries	1801	+ 10	5.5	20	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	20	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	20
<b>BANKS</b>																				
3610%	2740%	ABN AMRO	1029	+ 29	5.5	12.7	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	12.7	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	12.7
521	521	Barclays	245	+ 5	5.5	10.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	10.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	10.1
326	285	Barclays Amex	348	+ 1	5.5	7.8	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	7.8	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	7.8
110	681	Barclays Plc	236	+ 16	5.5	9.5	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	9.5	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	9.5
462	521	Barclays (Amex)	416	+ 12	5.5	4.2	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	4.2	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	4.2
1355	1122%	Commercial	1134	+ 15	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1
2472	2021%	Commercial	1029	+ 10	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1
125	125	Commercial	125	+ 15	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1
1125	1125	Commercial	1125	+ 15	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1
421	415	Commercial	1125	+ 15	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1
247	415	Commercial	1125	+ 15	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1
711	657	Commercial	125	+ 15	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1
125	125	Commercial	125	+ 15	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1
125	125	Commercial	125	+ 15	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1
125	125	Commercial	125	+ 15	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1
125	125	Commercial	125	+ 15	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1
125	125	Commercial	125	+ 15	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1
125	125	Commercial	125	+ 15	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1
125	125	Commercial	125	+ 15	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1
125	125	Commercial	125	+ 15	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1
125	125	Commercial	125	+ 15	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1
125	125	Commercial	125	+ 15	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1
125	125	Commercial	125	+ 15	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1
125	125	Commercial	125	+ 15	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1
125	125	Commercial	125	+ 15	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1
125	125	Commercial	125	+ 15	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1
125	125	Commercial	125	+ 15	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1
125	125	Commercial	125	+ 15	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1
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125	125	Commercial	125	+ 15	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1
125	125	Commercial	125	+ 15	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1	13	27	27.9	27	-2	5.5	15.1
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How does a growing family join the space race without moving? Rachel Kelly offers a few tips

## Homes with the Tardis touch

**S**ome families are at war with their homes, and the battle is over space. Many young couples were delighted when they moved in, but then children arrived. A still sticky market means that some growing families cannot move. The answer — like Dr Who's magic police phone box — is to make limited living space work more effectively.

New figures from the Land Registry show that 787,337 homes were sold last year, compared with more than two million a year in the late 1980s. On average, we now move only once every seven years instead of every five. And many a baby can be born in seven years — the average time it takes for a couple to establish a young family.

Around a million families cannot move because their homes are worth less than their mortgages, according to figures from the city brokers UBS Phillips & Drew. And estate agents complain of a continuing shortage of good-sized family homes to sell.

This is good news for interior designers, whose order books are full as homeowners seek to make space go further. Wendy Nicholls, of Colefax & Fowler, points out that the ideal 1990s look is uncluttered, whereas many cramped houses are filling up with pushchairs and prams. "There is pressure on interior designers to be adaptable," she says. "The mood at the moment is for very simple, open spaces."

With the help of Ms Nicholls, Louise Tegederine from Fox Linton and the architect Gareth James, who specialises in designing small houses which function like larger ones, we have compiled a guide to making the most of limited space.

The first rule is to get professional help, which can be cheaper in the long run than trying to do it yourself and making costly mistakes. Consult an architect or an interior designer who will

have tackled similar space-planning challenges before. Then consider your family's present and future needs. Consult an estate agent before starting any building work to find out whether you are likely to recoup your investment if you eventually decide to move. This will help you to establish a budget and to develop a brief with your designer.

You could create a multi-function room. Make the most of existing space by combining activities. A dining room, for instance, can become a study and a spare bedroom.

Most people are slaves to tradition. Moving the sitting room upstairs might make sense — and do you really need a dining room, or will a large kitchen serve? And make the most of your roof space.

Use your walls as storage areas. Line them with bookcases and store small items on them in box files. Use the space under beds to store linen. Extend cupboards to the ceiling. One complete storage wall is more efficient than umpteen tables and cupboards. Dark rooms always appear smaller, so lighten wherever possible and avoid bold wallpapers in small rooms — smaller patterns make rooms appear bigger. Mirrors can make a narrow room seem wider or open up dark corners.

Consider door locations, especially in rooms used as thoroughfares — typically kitchens and sitting rooms. Doors placed opposite each other waste space. Details such as ironmongery, door furniture and fittings can add interest to a small area, deflecting attention away from the actual floorspace.

Finally, careful choice of furniture might seem obvious but worth emphasising. A two-seater sofa will take up less room than two, easy chairs, bunk beds are the obvious solution for children's rooms, and flip-up beds that fold away into a wardrobe are useful for accommodating friends and relatives.

### Moving the sitting room upstairs can make sense



Emma Burns has used mirrors to make her bedroom look bigger and hidden wardrobes behind mock bookshelves

## Turning a house upside down

**Amanda Loose on the designer who changed a kitchen into a bedroom**

**W**hen Emma Burns and her husband had their second child, they decided that their Essex home was just too small, but they couldn't afford to move.

"We now had two children of different ages, a boy and a girl, so it was vital that they had their own rooms," says Mrs Burns. "Originally we wanted to move, but everything we liked was too expensive, so we decided to move around what we had. That is to say I decided — my husband thought the whole idea was mad. Our problem was that we had the space, but in the wrong places."

A designer with Colefax &

Fowler for 12 years, she imagined that space in the one-storey house was inside a boat. "Most of the changes simply involved reallocating space, changing over rooms, re-jigging doors and building in cupboards and bookcases. The work took about four months."

"Originally our house had three bedrooms, a drawing room, dining room, kitchen and bathroom. Just because a room is a kitchen, doesn't mean it can't become a bedroom. We turned our main

bedroom into the multifunctional kitchen because they wanted a large living space for the children and also for entertaining. This meant we needed a bigger kitchen where we could eat, entertain and where we could also watch television. So this room had to be a kitchen, dining room and playroom."

The old kitchen became a child's bedroom and bathroom, and the dining room was turned into the main bedroom. "We now have four bedrooms, a kitchen/dining room/playroom, drawing room and a better bathroom," says Mrs Burns.

The Burnses decided on a multifunctional kitchen because they wanted a large living space for the children and also for entertaining. This meant we needed a bigger kitchen where we could eat, entertain and where we could also watch television. So this room had to be a kitchen, dining room and playroom."

Mrs Burns made the most of their narrow hall by turning it into a library. "This works really well. The hall is 8ft wide, so adding bookcases dealt with the big problem of storage, as we have more than 3,500 books. It also gave the hall an identity as a room, as opposed to a passage."

## New lease of life for masterpiece

**Listing is sought for a south London Goldfinger building**

**O**ne of London's most controversial modern buildings, designed by the modernist architect Erno Goldfinger, is to be converted to 42 flats. Rachel Kelly writes.

Alexander Fleming House, the Constructivist-style office complex at Elephant & Castle in south London and the former headquarters of the DfSS, has been the focus of a long-running campaign to prevent its owners altering or demolishing it.

But conservationists said yesterday that they were delighted to learn that the developers, Berkeley Homes, and the owners, the Inry Group, are preparing to convert the building to flats costing between £50,000 and £100,000.

Knight Frank introduced the developers to the director of the developer St George, a subsidiary of Berkeley Homes, said that the company had applied to Southwark council for planning permission for the flats in the 18-storey building, which range from one-bedroom studios to three-bedroom penthouses.

The developers plan new leisure facilities, including a gymnasium, business centre and billiards room. They also hope to redevelop the ground floor of the building with new restaurants and to improve the building's surroundings with landscaping. "This is

an up-and-coming area.

Communications on the Bakerloo and Northern Lines

to the City and Westminster are good. The building needs lots of cleaning

up to return it to its original splendour. At the moment, it is a very sad building and we want to bring it back to life."

Alexander Fleming House was completed in 1963 by the Inry Group and was seen as the major work of Goldfinger's career. A number of renowned architects and historians, including Sir Richard Rogers and Sir Denys Lasdun, have campaigned for the building to be listed.

**B**ut despite the enthusiasm of architects, the building was disliked by those who had to work there. Civil servants from the Department of Health and Social Security moved out of it in 1991.

They complained of freezing in winter, roasting in summer and suffering sore throats because of sick building syndrome.

Tony Carey, managing

English Heritage commented: "We are very happy. We have seen the plans for the building, which seem very sympathetic. There are no plans for major alterations. We are always pleased to see a building used rather than standing empty."

This week English Heritage is to recommend to the Department of National Heritage that the building be listed. The Government is expected to make a decision on listing within the next month.

The National Trust, which owns Erno Goldfinger's own house and which opened it to the public this year, was equally delighted. A spokesman said: "It is very good news that the future of the building is now secure."

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# The rise and rise of the male secretary

After a century of female domination, computer-literate men are beginning to wrest the job back, reports Jennie Cox

From ancient Rome to the late 19th century, secretaries were men. Now, after a mere century of female domination, men are beginning to wrest the job back. While the typewriter transformed the position of status into "women's work", the computer revolution and the enhanced secretarial role are making it more attractive to men. They now fill more than one in five temporary vacancies with Office Angels, the recruitment consultants.

Only 1 per cent of the secretarial population is male, but the numbers are up by a fifth on five years ago. A study by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation says that as the job market shrinks, men will turn to female industries for work. Pamela Meadows, editor of *Work Out* or *Work In?*, says: "Men will have to make a psychological leap to get themselves over the idea of what is women's work. Employers will have to come to terms with seeing male applicants for what

have always been female jobs."

The main male interest in computers has meant that men have acquired keyboard skills. They are realising that these are marketable tools. Employment agencies are therefore persuading more and more men to try the secretarial role because it is a more lucrative and satisfying way of making money than traditional male temping. One example is Joe Humphries, 47. Bored with accounting, Mr Humphries tried secretarial work and is happier in his job and earns more money.

Recruitment agencies report a significant upturn in the number of men willing to fill vacancies. Once they have tried it, many accept full-time job offers. Paul Jacobs, regional director for Office Angels, says the opportunities for men with IT skills are huge.

"Those willing to do the job can be very successful, and I must say, they are very popular," he says. Clients express pleasant surprise



David Woodcock started secretarial work between acting jobs

when told to expect a male secretary and none has been refused. As both sexes become equally computer-literate and the gender barrier disappears, Mr Jacobs predicts that the numbers will rise further.

The present graduate population is discovering the job almost by accident, but the next generation is actively considering a secretarial-type career. The young man enrolling at college with the intention of looking for a secretarial job is a relatively new phenomenon.

Because of rising demand Pitman Training last year launched Office Skills for Men and both Guildford and St James's secretarial colleges report growing numbers of men.

Paul Cavendish, 26, a former Cavendish, is starting a three-month course in the hope of becoming a legal secretary.

Shock would have been the reaction from employers five years ago to the idea of a secretary being male, but a changing workplace is slowly affecting attitudes. Dedi-

cation, reliability and confidence are among the benefits men bring to the job, a survey by Reed Personnel Services revealed last January.

Respondents who had no experience of male secretaries indicated a willingness to try them out. Most

felt that with the expected increase in the next ten years of jobs requiring computer skills, the rise of the male secretary is inevitable.

"At the moment employers can still make quick assumptions about men," says Katie Nicholson of

Skills and attitude are what matter. We find again and again that once employers have experience of a male secretary the barriers are broken down."

Peter Bull's boss was initially reluctant to take him on. But now when the 49-year-old, who has been a secretary since the 1960s, is asked why he does women's work, he says: "It's people's work. Very challenging and rewarding."

Men are also discovering that the job can be a useful route into industry. Jamie Althorpe, 24, did temping after graduating and said it was a good way of getting his talent recognised.

And it was no problem for Daniel Lewington, 23, who has never been out of work.

Yet many are put off by the label.

When Amanda Main-Tucker Recruitment advertises for a business assistant instead of a secretary, 50

per cent of the respondents are male. Lisa Kelly, of Secretarial and Temporary Appointments, says that as the secretary's job becomes more managerial, men will want the job and employers will get used to having a male assistant. "Smart employers re-evaluate job prospects and see what skills people have and how they can use them."

Companies which lost middle-managers after the recession are more willing to try men. Chances for progress are greater than for women and they are often paid more, according to a joint survey by Pitman Training and Executive PA Magazine.

David Woodcock, 42, who started secretarial work between acting jobs, finds male secretaries are given more responsibility as their role widens. "The job is getting more skilled and once you prove you can do it, that carries you through any negative perceptions," he says.

Too many companies, however, are unhappy with the idea of asking a male secretary to make the tea, and while a lack of candidates prevents numbers rising more quickly, so too do old-fashioned attitudes. Earlier this year Alan Robinson, a typist, who lost his case for sexual discrimination after being turned away by a secretarial recruitment agency, said he wanted to highlight the equality issue and help stereotypes to disappear. He faces an uphill task, says the Equal Opportunities Commission.

This year, for the first time, the EOC is receiving more complaints of discrimination from men than from women, among them many who have been refused office jobs on the ground of sex. According to the EOC, some employers are still looking at sex not skills when considering an application form.

Kamlesh Bahl, the chairwoman of the EOC, finds the deeply entrenched divides about male and female jobs disturbing. "Men's situation is no different to that faced by women few years ago. But by highlighting their plight we will move on to sensible debate and the gender war will eventually disappear."

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# Has 'feel-good' factor arrived?

**Christopher Warman** on increasing confidence in property investment

**I**ncreasing investment in commercial property by the pension and insurance institutions shows that the 'feel-good' factor is returning, Jones Lang Wootton reports in its assessment of the latest institutional property investment figures released by the Central Statistical Office last week.

The property advisers believe the figures mean increasing confidence in the sector. In the first quarter of the year, pension funds invested £241 million, while insurance companies increased their property holdings by £44 million.

John Stephen, investment partner at JLW, said that since Easter it had become clear that the larger institutions had a renewed appetite for property investment and were actively seeking to acquire in the sector. While buyers remained selective, prices were being driven up by strong competitive bidding among institutions and property companies.

"The summer of 1996 should see a significant increase in investor activity in the market, with strong competition to acquire good quality properties," he said.

This assessment is endorsed in a survey by the Confederation of British Industry and Grimley, the property advisers. The survey reflects a more positive outlook for property than the previous six months ago, showing that 28 per cent of companies are expecting to increase their

property holdings in the next six months, while 25 per cent predict a reduction. The overall positive balance of 3 per cent compares with a negative balance of 5 per cent in the previous survey.

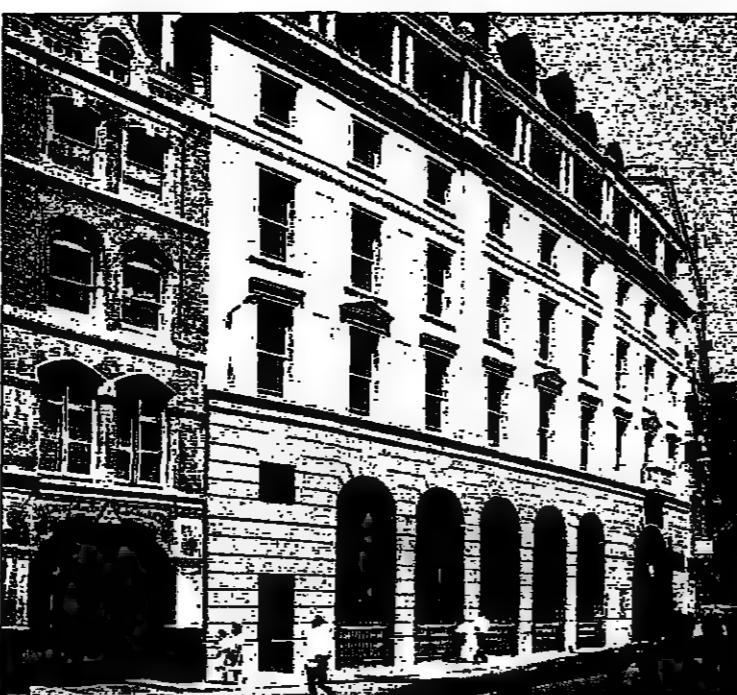
The survey shows that the largest companies are the most optimistic, as are those in metal manufacturing, chemical processing, transport, communications, finance, business services, distribution and construction. The energy and water sectors are the most pessimistic, with more than 50 per cent of companies expecting to see a decrease.

The retail sector continues to be the area expected to have the strongest growth in property holdings, and as in previous surveys, companies are concentrating more on free-standing suburban and out-of-town locations rather than town centres.

Sudhir Juanker, CBI associate director of economic analysis, said:

"The prospects for property are now brighter than six months ago. For the first time since the survey began in 1994, the UK is expected to be the leading growth market ahead of business from overseas and in the rest of the EU."

"Expansion of capacity, rather than increasing efficiency, is now the more important factor motivating companies' property investment plans. This is encouraging as it suggests that companies are starting to equip themselves for an upturn."



Regus UK Limited, the serviced offices group, has taken 13,286 sq ft at PGGM's development at 120, Old Broad Street, EC2, one of the few new buildings available in the City. A further floor is under offer, leaving 30,050 sq ft available at £35 a sq ft, through Jones Lang Wootton and Richard Ellis.

Michael Corbett, Grimley's managing partner, emphasised that demand from occupiers, especially from the corporate sector, was more serious than a year ago. "This is primarily for better quality property

change, and JLW reports that the take-up of office space in the first six months of the year is more than 3.9 million sq ft. The likely take-up during 1996 will exceed 7.5 million sq ft, an increase of nearly 10 per cent compared to last year.

Neal Scambler, partner of JLW's City leasing team, said that over half of the take-up in the first six months had been Grade A (prime) offices, and consequently the supply of prime space had continued to reduce, leaving a vacancy rate down to nearly 3 per cent. "There is a genuine feeling among many occupiers, particularly those who are unable to consider alternatives, that now is the time to lease Grade A offices before the limited supply reduces further."

Jones Lang Wootton estimates that prime rental levels in the City are around £40 a sq ft, while in the West End demand is such that top rents of £45 can be achieved.

One of the reasons for rent rises is the shortage of new property, and the agent Chesteron describes the lack of momentum in the supply of new buildings as a cause for pessimism. Chesteron Research says that only the City market is moving ahead positively, with total space under construction up by 37 per cent since the end of 1995 to 3.3 million sq ft, and the number of new schemes under way rising from 20 to 29.

Construction in the West End, by contrast, fell by 2.4 per cent to 1.8 million sq ft and starts in the first quarter, at 162,000 sq ft in four schemes, showed a marked drop on the previous quarter's high mark of 958,000 sq ft.

In office property, central London is invariably the barometer of

## Leisure in Liverpool

THE redevelopment of the 34-acre Kings Waterfront site in Liverpool into one of the largest indoor commercial leisure centres in Britain has moved stage closer. The Stadium Group has been appointed the preferred developer for the scheme by the Merseyside Development Corporation.

The group, responsible for the Meadowhall shopping centre at Sheffield, will now work with the corporation on the design, which will complement the regeneration of both the adjoining waterfront areas including the Albert Dock and the city centre.

The project will comprise a multiplex cinema complex, leisure and health centre, virtual reality and family entertainment centres and a dockside promenade with bars and restaurants.

TRAFAVGAR House Property Limited is to sell its last investment at The Heights, Brooklands, to the tenant Sony (UK) Limited for £45 million. The 137,200 sq ft building, completed in March 1994, was prelet to Sony, which has exercised its fixed price option to buy.

The building has won a number of awards, including the B1 (mixed) office develop-

ment of 1994, and was built by Trafalgar House Construction (Regions) Limited.

NOVELL, a leading international networking software provider, is to buy the 84,650 sq ft No 1 Arlington Square, Bracknell, the first phase of Arlington Securities' town centre development. Novell decided to purchase the building, for £18.75 million, rather than lease it.

The transaction vindicates Arlington's decision to hold out for a single occupier, despite having completed the building four years ago at the bottom of the market. Novell has also taken an option on adjoining land for an additional 100,000 sq ft of space.

LONDON & Amsterdam Properties (LAP) has been given approval for its £100 million retail project in the centre of Milton Keynes, with the signing of the development agreement with the Commission for New Towns.

The project, on an eight-acre site next to the existing shopping centre, will provide 400,000 sq ft of space, including a 130,000 sq ft department store, three other large stores and 40 shops, restaurants and leisure facilities.

LAP is a joint venture between London & Easter Properties Ltd and ING Real Estate International BV, the property development and investment subsidiary of the Dutch-based ING Group.

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## ■ FILM

Native Indian culture and Blake poems? It could only be a movie by Jim Jarmusch



## ■ VISUAL ART 1

Back to basics: the Royal Academy Schools return to an emphasis on traditional drawing skills



## ■ VISUAL ART 2

... and the Royal Academy is also introducing children to the first skills of life-drawing



■ TOMORROW  
Has Tom Cruise pumped new life into *Mission: Impossible?* Read Geoff Brown's verdict

# Gone way out, far-out West

**Michael Church** on how William Blake gave Jim Jarmusch a hand with his new film

**F**unny how William Blake keeps forcing his way into the general consciousness. Each generation makes its discovery. There was a vogue in the Twenties, another with the Beat poets in the Fifties, and another with the psychedelic rockers of the Seventies. That he should take centre-stage in Jim Jarmusch's film *Dead Man* — where a Wild West "William Blake", aka Johnny Depp, meets an Indian who delivers aphorisms from *The Marriage of Heaven and Hell* — seems merely par for the course.

But Blake was not Jarmusch's starting point. In *Dead Man* a Candide-like Depp forsakes turn-of-the-century New York for a frontier life, and then crosses that frontier to live, and die, among Native Americans. The starting point was Jarmusch's lifelong fascination with Indian culture: Blake came into the frame while Jarmusch was, as he thought, taking time off from his script.

"To clear my head, I thought I'd better read something totally unrelated, and Blake seemed perfect," Jarmusch says. "But I immediately found these incredible connections to the stuff I'd just been writing. The eagle never lost so much time as when he submitted to learn from the crow. I thought: am I just tired, or am I hallucinating? Then all the resonance of Blake flooded my mind."

**I opened the door, and in walked this visionary poet**

but also by country music. Music was the inspiration for the film, and it infuses every frame.

As he worked on the script for *Dead Man*, Jarmusch gradually realised whom he wanted to score it. "I didn't want banjo music; I didn't want period stuff. I wanted the music to underscore the psychedelic aspects of the story, which meant someone like Neil Young, with that rough, soaring guitar, which picks you up and transports you like some Aztec bird.

"He's not a virtuoso, but he can make his guitar sound like anything he wants: he

opened the door, and in walked this damn visionary poet."

A little while later, someone even more fundamental walked in. Jarmusch had started life as a singer with a psychedelic rock group, and always makes music the cornerstone of his films. *Mystery Train*, for example, is permeated not only by the sound of its ghostly hero Elvis Presley, but also by country music.

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As he worked on the script for *Dead Man*, Jarmusch gradually realised whom he wanted to score it. "I didn't want banjo music; I didn't want period stuff. I wanted the music to underscore the psychedelic aspects of the story, which meant someone like Neil Young, with that rough, soaring guitar, which picks you up and transports you like some Aztec bird.

"He's not a virtuoso, but he can make his guitar sound like anything he wants: he

speaks very directly, very emotionally through it. But then I thought, he's a rock star and I don't know him. I'll never get him to do it."

He did get him, but the process was suitably bizarre.

Young and his group Crazy Horse happened to be playing

an Indian benefit not far from where *Dead Man* was shooting in Arizona. Jarmusch and his crew went to listen.

Disregarding warnings

that Young was in no mood to be pestered, Jarmusch went backstage to plead his case,

and was told he could send a rough-cut which might — or might not — draw a response.

He sent one; there was a

dismally long silence; then the capricious star suddenly rang to say yes. There

would be no need for a

backing group: Young would do the whole thing himself.

"Neil simply asked me for a map of where I wanted music in the film. We set him up in a San Francisco warehouse

with his guitars, a pump organ, and a detuned piano,

and let him react to the screen

the way musicians used to with silent movies. The only

thing he insisted on was that the film should on no account be stopped." They did the three things straight through three times, and spiced the best takes together.

The resulting work is by

any standards extraordinary.

Initially we see, in close-up,

locomotive pistons in a swirl

of steam; what we hear is the

jagged clangour of an electric

guitar. Depp is being borne

off to the West on a train —

and on the wings of music. At

the beginning of the film the

guitar is only heard in brief

bursts — like a door being

opened and closed — but by

the end its plangent sound

seems to fill the screen.

American critics dismissing

*Dead Man* as a cinematic

sleeping pill have been

drowned out by admirers

hailing it as a tragicomic

masterpiece. "My job is to

stay on the periphery of

things," Jarmusch says. "If

everyone liked my work, I'd

reconsider my choice of career."



Film director Jim Jarmusch: "My job is to stay on the periphery of things. If everyone liked my work, I'd reconsider my choice of career"

guitar. Depp is being borne off to the West on a train — and on the wings of music. At the beginning of the film the guitar is only heard in brief bursts — like a door being opened and closed — but by the end its plangent sound seems to fill the screen.

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chandising spin-offs — "music bought and sold by the yard" — was compounded by Young's determination to make this first release on his new record label sound as different as possible from a conventional album. So he created a free-associative collage in which his guitar merged with bits of dialogue or

the film (and excised later), plus Depp reading Blake's poem, *I went to the garden of love* (not in the film), plus the roar of the sea (ditto), plus the sound of Young's 1949 Lincoln revving up (and this for a film in which everyone rides horses).

"When I first heard it, I was shocked," says Jarmusch. "But Neil said, 'Just forget

your film, and listen,' so I did. And then I thought it was amazing. But I got him back with the video he commissioned from me to launch the record. I used the one piece of music from the film which he had not included on his record. Quits."

• *Dead Man* opens on Friday. The soundtrack is available on VHS.

VISUAL ART: Isabel Carlisle and (below right) Hilary Finch paint two pictures of the Royal Academy's new, and old, passion

## Drawn to a neglected essential

Things are buzzing at the Royal Academy Schools, the art school at the back of the Royal Academy. It's the end of term, and first and second-year students have moved out of the 19th-century Smirke studios to allow the third years to hang, install or arrange their work for the Final Year Show. At the same time two enterprising students have been selling tickets for two debates they have organised on contemporary art, featuring international artists.

The Royal Academy Schools is the oldest art school in the country. Founded by George III in 1768, for many years this well-regulated School or Academy of Design, for the use of the students in the Arts", plus the annual exhibition that we now know as the Summer Exhibition, alone constituted the Royal Academy.

Among past students were Turner, Blake, Constable, Millais and Rossetti, and, unlike other art schools that threw their plaster casts of antique statues out in the 1960s (and are now regretting it) the Academy Schools has a whole corridor of them. It all adds up to a weight of achievement and tradition that could be seen as suffocating by art students today.

Last October Leonard McComb was the Royal Academician elected Keeper of the RA Schools. Although he has taught at the Schools part-time for some years, this is the end of his first year as head of teaching. Last November he presided over the reopening of the Schools after a programme of internal works that included the restoration of the historic life drawing room, with its two semicircles of wooden benches and edges, and the creation of a new sculpture yard.

McComb's own training included a postgraduate course at the Slade School of Art in the 1980s. "Men and women students had separate life rooms then and there was a strong emphasis on teaching people to draw," he says. "In the 1960s photography replaced drawing and now there is a whole generation of people who don't know how to draw."

The teaching at the Academy Schools has become more formal since McComb arrived. All Royal Academy students of painting are now expected to study anatomy.



Back to basics: Leonard McComb, Keeper of the Royal Academy Schools, in the life class

and drawing from the model,

in their first year.

McComb is quick to point out, though, that this is not narrow traditionalism. "There is no system or house style, but in the first year we provide a background of study from which each student can develop on it," he says.

Life drawing is central to this. "Because the drawing process is one of selection and decision-making, students engaged in drawing can subsequently make all sorts of practical art and design decisions," McComb says.

The students, both of painting and of sculpture, are all postgraduates. They are well aware of the differences between the various London art schools — conceptual artists don't apply to the academy. Those who want to learn to print or sculpt, with some printmaking on the side, do.

Mark Reynolds, a first-year, says: "I love having the life room there if I want to go and use it. Also it's great having the Cork Street galleries and the White Cube gallery [which shows the latest in contemporary art] just around the corner."

Others talk about how supportive their fellow students are and how they are in and out of each other's studios the whole time. The Royal Academy's own exhibitions are used for teaching: when the Poussin

exhibition was on, students were in the galleries from 8am making copies. With only 48 painting students and 10 sculpture students, the place has the atmosphere of a large family. The porter, John Nunn, also teaches photography.

When the Royal Academy was founded it was intended that the proceeds from the annual exhibition should fund the art school and pay the tuition fees of the students. This arrangement came to an end in 1978 and now the academy simply gives the Schools a lump sum — about £100,000 a year.

The fees are £6,400 a year, but almost all students have the costs met by the Department for Education and private bursaries. *Time Out*, the listings magazine, joined a long list of sponsors when it announced last week that it was giving a scholarship of £6,500 a year for three years. There are also travel scholarships and the Schools give students £100 per term for materials.

McComb approves of the low-key approach that the Royal Academy Schools take towards marketing their students in an outside world ruled by the vagaries of artistic fashion. Having taught at Goldsmiths, the school that produced, among other luminaries,

the Royal Academy Schools Final Year Show (supported by The Royal Bank of Scotland, Burlington House, London W1, 0171-839 7430), until July 12

The Royal Academy's regard for life-drawing as the very heart of the visual arts education is being carried throughout the country in a network of all-day workshops in primary and secondary schools.

The project started as a small pilot scheme in response to a demand from teachers for life-drawing workshops in relation to the Henry Moore exhibition of 1988; now 18,000 children and teachers take part.

At Hunter's Hall Junior School in Dagenham, vast sheets of gleaming white cartridge paper and long new sticks of tinkling charcoal lie on the wooden floor of the gym. Twenty-eight nine-year-olds enter in huge paint-splattered shirts. Their life-drawing model, Niki Baldwin, erstwhile dancer and actor, takes up her position, naked but for neutral bodystocking, cat-like on a central mat. A few words from RA artist Charlotte Steel, swift and to the point. "We're going to draw Niki again!" Charlotte, too, springs up. "She can't stay in one position for a moment! What are we going to do?" Even as a watchful eye is lowered to the paper, a leg is raised, an elbow bent, a spine tensed. "It's impossible to make a neat drawing, isn't it?" Socky lines bend, blend, twist, overlap. Drawings begin to look like an animated sequence of Renaissance sketches.

Now the master himself is invoked. "Anyone heard of freedom of movement. All our knowledge, as Leonardo said, 'has its origin in our perceptions'."

Now yet another large sheet. "We're going to draw Niki again!" Charlotte, too, springs up. "She can't stay in one position for a moment! What are we going to do?" Even as a watchful eye is lowered to the paper, a leg is raised, an elbow bent, a spine tensed. "It's impossible to make a neat drawing, isn't it?" Socky lines bend, blend, twist, overlap. Drawings begin to look like an animated sequence of Renaissance sketches.

Girls sketch precisely, analytically, small and in the centre of the paper. Boys sweep over the surface with a bold primitivism. Just five minutes on and drawing stops; work is finished.

Now they have an even bigger sheet of paper in front of them. "Dot the charcoal round all four corners," Steel tells them. "Fast! Draw a big circle, round and round. Now stand up. I'm going to shout one, two, three, and then you make the shape with your bodies of what I call out. Mice! Monkeys! Now, when I shout, make marks on the paper which correspond to what I say. A huge soft smudge! A snake, slithering over the paper! Horrible ugly little marks, eating into the paper!"

Exercise follows exercise in rapid, fluent sequence. The idea with this age group is not to complete, to develop, to assess, but to look closely, to be aware of the body, to focus on different ways of seeing, on

freedom of movement. All our knowledge, as Leonardo said, "has its origin in our perceptions".

Now yet another large sheet. "We're going to draw Niki again!" Charlotte, too, springs up. "She can't stay in one position for a moment! What are we going to do?" Even as a watchful eye is lowered to the paper, a leg is raised, an elbow bent, a spine tensed. "It's impossible to make a neat drawing, isn't it?" Socky lines bend, blend, twist, overlap. Drawings begin to look like an animated sequence of Renaissance sketches.

Now the master himself is invoked. "Anyone heard of

workshops, and watched schools throughout the country bring up their own life-drawing programmes. He sees the presence of the living model as a symbol of how

skills of both observation and imagination become uniquely fused in these intensive projects.

"For once, it's nothing to do with galleries and clipboards," he says. "This really gets to the centre of the business. And no one else is doing it. It's formidable."

• For more information contact Paula Kite, Education Department, Royal Academy of Arts, London W1V 0DS (0171-839 5730, fax 441 5781)

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Leonardo da Vinci? He was very interested in what our bodies could do. He even dissected them. He cut off the skin and looked inside."

The children pair off, arch their backs, feel the knobs on the spine, the fleshiness





**■ THEATRE 1**  
Hannah Gordon excels in a quietly gripping new staging of *The Aspern Papers*



**■ THEATRE 2**  
... while at the Royal Court Ken Campbell has a good time debunking the thespian life

**THE TIMES**  
**ARTS**



**■ OPERA**  
Deconstructed *Idomeneo* doesn't really work on a Garsington shoestring



**■ MUSIC**  
The best of Chopin: Maria Joao Pires is this week's "Building a Library" choice

**OPERA**

## Mint set on a budget

ONSTAGE at least, Garsington really does seem to have shed its "Anyone for opera?" image — though a jape-filled production of *Idomeneo*, Mozart's grandest opera, would be unimaginable. The trouble with David Fielding's new staging is that he deconstructs the story of the King of Crete's vow to Neptune, and "deconstructionism" on a shoe-string seldom works.

Fielding's own abstract design sits uncomfortably on the terrace of the beautiful Jacobean manor house: the stage is dominated by a giant Polo mint, and it is through the hole we gauge the emotional temperature as curtains are drawn to reveal calm and stormy seas. To underline Idomeneo's moral dilemma,

*Idomeneo*  
Garsington

Fielding provides a large vermillion maze, but it also becomes a handy place to put the chorus — which sings well while looking nonplussed by the production.

Costumes range from 18th-century to modern, and the chorus is in black shifts and trilby hats. Through it all, one senses what Fielding is saying: *Idomeneo* is not about war and peace or a ruler's magnificence, but the king's rash vow and its consequences. His direction of the trio and quartet evokes the conflicting emotions movingly.

Amid this blaze of competence, inspiration was to be found on the musical side. The German soprano Melanie Diener made an auspicious British debut as Ida. Jean Rigby coupled keen, fluent vocalism and urgent dramatic presence as Idamante, and Rita Cullis's Electra raged strongly. Jon Garrison's Idomeneo was dull in recitative and insecure in aria, and given Ryland Davies's tuning problems it would have been kinder to cut both Arbach's arias. At least Nicholas Sean made a virile-sounding High Priest. Stewart Bedford drew like refined playing and shapely drama, well worth the trip to Garsington.

JOHN ALLISON

**THIS WEEK'S OFFERS**

**LONDON**  
Duke of York's Theatre  
July 8-Aug 24  
• BASED on the works of P.G. Wodehouse, *Private Lives* by Alan Ayckbourn and Andrew Lloyd Webber. By turns is the perfect summer tonic. Tickets are £25 for Theatre Club members, including a free glass of Pinot. Tel 0171-836 5122.

**Royal Opera House**  
July 13, 16  
• ORCHESTRA seats tickets £8.25 (normally £11.50) for Richard Eyre's magnificent production of Verdi's *La Traviata*. With Elena Katschava and Vincenzo La Scala. Tel 0171-304 4000.

**ON TOUR**

• TICKETS £5 for the Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evening performances of an enchanting musical adaptation of the classic children's story, *The Secret Garden*. See it on tour at:

**BRIGHTON Hippodrome** July 10-12. Tickets normally £7.50 to £9.50. Tel 0117 920 0444.  
**WORCESTER Royal** July 17-19. Tickets normally £7.50 to £12.50. Tel 01904 623568.  
**CARDIFF New Theatre** July 24-26. Tickets normally £6 to £8. Tel 01222 578899.  
**READING Heron Theatre** July 31-Aug 2. Tickets normally £7.50 to £9.50. Tel 01734 591501.

**JOIN NOW**

TO JOIN, either send a cheque for £12.50, made payable to The Theatre Club, together with your name, address and telephone number to: The Theatre Club, P.O. Box 2164, Colchester CO2 8JL or telephone 01206 22545 using your credit card. Allow 28 days for delivery of your membership pack. For general inquiries call 0171-387 9673.

**OPERA**

## Henry James adapted; Ken Campbell in top form; and dull tragedy

# Scoundrel sold short

**The Aspern Papers**  
Wyndham's

**H**enry James always longed to be a successful dramatist, and after a fashion he has become one. True, his own original plays seemed over-elaborate to a late-Victorian public used to little but theatrical beef-and-mustard. There is a famous description of him gulping and quaking in mandarin horror as he came *ostage* to hear what the balcony felt about *Guy Domville*. But several of his stories have been profitably adapted for both the stage and the screen, and few so far than *The Aspern Papers*, which was last seen in the West End a decade ago.

Then it was Christopher Reeve who played the critic who comes to Venice on a surreptitious search for the love letters written by the American poet Jeffrey Aspern to "the dark lady of the Italian cantos". Wendy Hiller was the lady herself in old age, and Vanessa Redgrave the shy, unmarried niece who tends her. Now the role of Henry Jarvis is taken by Daniel J. Travanti and those of the Bordereau women by Moira Lister and Hannah Gordon. Every member of Auriol Smith's cast performs competently, and one of them more than competently — why, then, did I feel that James's reputation as a dramatist had not been vastly reinforced?

Well, *time and changing taste* have left parts of Michael Redgrave's adaptation sounding a bit clumsy. Transforming first-person narrative to dialogue does oblige poor Travanti to try to give life to awful expository lines about seeking "the key to the riddle of Jeffrey Aspern". But he might fare better if he made us feel there was genuine obsession behind his long, craggy mouse-face.

His elegant confidante, Vivien Heilbron's Mrs Prest, says

**BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE**

## Prankster in his prime

**Theatre Stories**  
Royal Court

for several days, but Campbell was doing this and more back in the Sixties, for example, last from 9pm on Friday to evening pub opening the following Sunday.

*Theatre Stories* bears a superficial resemblance to the amiable *Thespis* rambles of Peter Ustinov. It may stray over similar territory, may even drop the same names, but this is decisively the alternative version. To reassure us, the stage is adorned with three unexpected career effigies: a naked Ken Dodd, complete with feather cluster; a primp wooden god figure; and a serene green toad beneath a mushroom parasol.

Moreover, *Theatre Stories* is immaculately constructed. The narrative packhorse over which the many vivid anecdotes are slung is the prank of epic proportions that Campbell perpetrated on the Royal Shakespeare Company in 1980. Trevor Nunn and John Caird's production of *Nicholas Nickleby* was a runaway success. Campbell got hold of a letter on RSC headed note-paper which was signed, irresistibly, "love Trev". He changed the logo to "RDC".

and sent letters out to theatre grandees (including the head of the Arts Council and even Terry Hands, co-director of the RSC) announcing that the Bard had had his day and that Dickens was the company's new inspiration.

As the evening progresses, Campbell recalls more names from the roll-call of hapless directors, actors and general dopes who reacted to these RDC letters. The list forms an informal history of the British theatre, especially since each name is accompanied by a revealing story. Theatre academics could have a ball exploring the influence of Fluxus on Ken's subversive attack on the conventional theatre.

Campbell himself is far too busy enjoying himself to worry about such things, although present day avant-gardists who feel themselves ripped off by the Establishment will empathise when he points out how much *Nicholas Nickleby* "borrowed" from experimental theatre of the day. It remains to be seen only whether "love Trev" will become a catch phrase when Nunn takes up his post as director of the National Theatre — where, incidentally, Campbell's next solo show opens in September.

CLARE BAYLEY

## Weak reflections

**Medea in the Mirror**  
Brixton Shaw

BY FAR the most thrilling version of 1992's many *Medeas* was Steve Carter's at the Tricycle, which transposed the characters to the French West Indies, allowing myth and its contemporary equivalent to draw vigour from each other.

Any hope that José Triana's Cuban setting would generate a similar power steadily faded as Yvonne Brewster's production for Talawa wound its way towards the bloody end. Triana wrote the play in 1960, when his peculiar blend of rhetoric, wailing anger and economy of sense found him an audience. Rhetoric can be endured and anger respected, but a senseless plot makes one yearn for a power cut. As for the mirror in the title — Maria, Triana's *Medea*, and her two women servants often refer to it, and gradually I supposed that her reflection had something to do with the future, or her other self — or a way to the gods of hell.

The whole package costs £10 per person, including two nights' dinner, bed and breakfast accommodation at the three-star Best Western Lee Wood Hotel. To book, telephone the hotel on 01288 23002.

JEREMY KINGSTON

To celebrate a summer of sport *The Times*, in association with the TCCB, is offering readers the chance to watch some great county cricket and take a friend along for just 10p — the price of *The Times* every Monday throughout this summer.

You can choose to spend a day at one of 78 Britannic Assurance County Championship matches listed in *The Times* on Monday. A selection appears, right. The offer runs from Wednesday July 17, through to Monday September 23, 1996 inclusive. Each match is scheduled for four days and each game starts at 11am. Whatever game you choose to see you can be assured of a great game of cricket. And with our exclusive offer you can take a friend along for the day for just 10p when you buy one full-priced ticket.

## Win tickets to see England v Pakistan

Today *The Times* and the TCCB are offering readers another chance to win a pair of tickets to one day of the England v Pakistan Cornhill Test Match at Lord's which starts on July 25. Plus our winner will also get a cricket bat signed by the England team, an England shirt, sweatshirt and baseball cap.

### HOW TO ENTER

Call 0891 771 283 with your answer to the following question:

Who captained England when they met Pakistan at Lord's in 1992?

a) Mike Gatting      b) Graham Gooch

c) Mike Brearley

The winner will be chosen at random from all correct entries received by midnight tonight.

Calls cost 30p per minute cheap rate and 40p per minute at all other times.

**CLASSICAL CHOICE**

A guide to the best available recordings, presented in conjunction with Radio 3

**CHOPIN'S 24 PRELUDES**

reviewed by David Murray

**Chopin's Op 28 Preludes**

were written between 1836 and 1839, when the first of his sonatas, ballades, scherzos and impromptus were behind him. He was already working on his second essays in each of those forms, but a new plan caught his imagination: to produce a set of 24 uncommonly brief, pungent pieces, systematically arranged to represent all the major and minor keys.

He had always revered Bach, and when he fled to Majorca in 1838 with his mistress George Sand to spend a miserable winter completing this set, he took Bach's "48" with him. The "48" are two books of each of 24 preludes and fugues in every key. Since Chopin had little interest in fugues, he composed 24 fanciful "preludes" without fugues.

Unlike Bach's arrangement of the keys, a mere catalogue

C major and minor, then C sharp, D and so on up the chromatic scale — Chopin's more intricate system guarantees some overall harmonic coherence. That makes Op 28 a "cycle", not just a collection: and it is so brilliantly various that almost every pianist wants to test himself in it.

At the moment, there are

some three dozen versions

available on CD: a glut on the market, perhaps, which might explain the absence of inspired current performers such as Zimmerman, Schiff and Kissin.

Among the "historical" performances by Alfred Cortot, Egon Petri and Arthur Rubinstein, born well before the turn of the century, and their venerable juniors Claudio Arrau, Nikita Magaloff, Shura Cherkassky and Vlado

Perlemuter, Cortot's three versions (from 1926 to 1942) stand out: rarely emphatic, but expressively refined to the point where scrupulous intelligence becomes grace, much in Chopin's own style if reports are true.

I found Petri unexpectedly wide-ranging and dramatic, in his magisterial way, but for soaring fantasies in keyboard colour there is nobody like the lovably irresponsible Cherkassky.

**M**ore recent versions have the advantage of modern sound recording, which makes them immediately more accessible. With such friendly reproduction, many heartfelt but unremarkable performances convey a wealth of Chopinian rewards. Nothing, however, becomes Chopin like an elegantly consistent style and a searching imagination, and in those respects Martha Argerich, Iván Moravec and María-José Pires excel.

Argerich is thrilling and bold, sometimes sweeping over the top into Rachmaninov mode (DG 415 836-2); Moravec is warm and limpid, with lashings of acute sympathy and generous pedal (Supraphon 11 0630-2). But Pires's account (DG 437 817-2, £14.95) — seemingly innocent, unguarded, hugely musical — is the one I should choose to hear over and over again.

● To order the recommended recording, with free delivery, please send a cheque payable to The Times CD Mail to 29 Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5BL or phone 0800 488499; e-mail: [bld@mail.bogc.co.uk](mailto:bld@mail.bogc.co.uk)

● Next Saturday on Radio 3 (9am): Stravinsky's *Symphony in Three Movements*



Hannah Gordon and Daniel J. Travanti star in Auriol Smith's moderately gripping new staging of the Henry James story, *The Aspern Papers*, at Wyndham's Theatre

**AN EXCLUSIVE TIMES COMPETITION AND READER OFFER**

## Take a friend to a cricket match for 10p

Exclusive offer that saves you up to £6.90 on admission to county matches



To celebrate a summer of sport *The Times*, in association with the TCCB, is offering readers the chance to watch some great county cricket and take a friend along for just 10p — the price of *The Times* every Monday throughout this summer.

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**Home Games**

**LANCASHIRE**

At Old Trafford  
July 18 v Derbyshire

August 15 v Hampshire

September 3 v Middlesex

At Old Trafford  
August 7 v Surrey

Ticket price £5

**LEICESTERSHIRE**

At Leicester  
July 25 v Sussex

August 1 v Northamptonshire

August 22 v Hampshire

September 18 v Somerset

Ticket price £6

**SOMERSET**

At Taunton  
July 21 v Essex

August 1 v Warwickshire

September 5 v Derbyshire

At Weston-Super-Mare  
August 21 v Durham

Ticket price £6

**SURREY**

At Guildford  
July



## ROWING

# Breakfast-time showdown for club colleagues

BY MIKE ROSEWELL, ROWING CORRESPONDENT

LONDON'S B and C eights, who would not have been overjoyed at being drawn together in the Thames Cup, now have the unenviable honour of providing the first of the week's 324 races at the 157th Henley Royal Regatta, which starts at 8.30am today.

London A, one of four selected crews in the Thames, will be assured of a larger audience at 3pm when they race Nottingham and Union, coached by Marish Chmel, the international lightweight medal-winner, who believes they should have been selected as they have beaten both Wallingford and Nottingham Boat Club, who have favoured status.

None of the eight selected boats in the Temple Challenge

Cup eights or the Diamond Challenge Sculls enter the fray until tomorrow. In the Temple, however, ten overseas crews will be on view, including Orange Coast, from the United States, in their revolution boat, who take on Eton. Bruce Grainger, the Eton coach, asked about competing against a "hydrophobic" craft, was rather dismissive. "It's a question for *The Times* crossword really — spherical objects, eight letters, ending with S." All will be revealed at 5.35pm.

Conventional, rather than innovative boats, posed problems for the American crews from Dartmouth, New Hampshire, yesterday. Their junior varsity crew, entered in the Temple, were unhappy with

their borrowed boat and went for an outing in the one belonging to their senior colleagues, entered in the Ladies' Plate.

They collided with a pleasure craft, destroyed the bows, and left their coach, Scott Armstrong, with the inevitable task of swiftly borrowing, and rigging up, two boats at short notice. Luckily, their compatriots from Georgetown came to the rescue.

Yale, winners at Marlow Regatta, and a selected crew in the Temple, also had a mishap, colliding with Alex Story, a member of the Great Britain Olympic eight, who was out in a sculling boat. Story took an unexpected swim and Yale suffered a bent rigger.

Duncan Nicoll, of the local Upper Thames club, will race Peter Ujhelyi, a 17-year-old Hungarian. In an early round of the Diamond Sculls today in a rather lighter boat than one on show at the Leander Club, which he will occupy in September, 1997.

Chay Blyth, the Atlantic rower, was present yesterday with ex-Molesey rower, Jock Wishart, to promote a Canary Islands to Barbados, 2,900-mile race. Sixty crews have entered, Nicoll and Ali Gill, the stroke of the Great Britain women's Olympic eight, being one of them.

Parents will swell the enclosures as 32 school eights begin their quest for the Princess Elizabeth Challenge Cup. Hampton, the favourites, after Eton's decision to race their first eight in the Temple, have the least enviable task of the four selected crews, against Coleraine.

The Britannia and Wyfold Challenge Cups for coxed and coxed fours should be happy hunting grounds for British crews. There are just three overseas entries in the Britannia and only two in the Wyfolds. One of the latter, Sind RA, the first Pakistani entry at Henley, were still one man short yesterday.

Angus Roberson, Henley's entry co-ordinator, said: "Three arrived on Saturday, via Moscow, two days late and one chap seems to be stuck in Karachi." Roberson has obtained a boat for them from London University and blades, coloured the required blue and gold, from St Edward's School. But will Molesey be alone on the start at 10.45am?

His view is shared by John Whitaker whose horse, Weilham, has helped instil confidence with a string of successes, including the Hickstead Grand Prix in May. "All four horses are going well — I think we have a good chance," Whitaker said. Billington's inclusion

comes after a fine season with its Otto, a 10-year-old — a horse capable of winning honours in Atlanta.

In May, they completed the only double clear round in the British Nations Cup at Hickstead. Last month they were runners-up in the St Gallen Grand Prix. "It's a great honour to be selected," Billington said. "Anyone in a team with John, Michael and Nick has to be in with a chance because they are three of the best riders in the world."

Michael Whitaker underlined his form on Sunday with him and Two Step finished third in the Aachen Grand Prix, behind Ludger Beerbaum, of Germany, and Hugo Simon, of Austria — two medal contenders.

This will be Whitaker's third Olympic Games. At his first, in Los Angeles in 1984, he was a member of the silver medal-winning team — the



Boardman, of Britain, is bunched in the pack during yesterday's third stage

## EQUESTRIANISM

## Billington set for Atlanta

BY JENNY MACARTHUR

GEOFF BILLINGTON is to make his Olympic debut at the age of 41, after being named yesterday as one of the four riders in Britain's showjumping team for Atlanta. Billington, from Nantwich, Cheshire, joins the three regular riders of Nick Skelton and John and Michael Whitaker in a team which is optimistic about its chances of bringing back the gold medal for the first time since 1952.

"I'm the most buoyant I've ever been going into an Olympics," Ronnie Massarella, the team manager since 1970, said after the announcement at Stoneleigh yesterday.

His view is shared by John Whitaker whose horse, Weilham, has helped instil confidence with a string of successes, including the Hickstead Grand Prix in May. "All four horses are going well — I think we have a good chance," Whitaker said. Billington's inclusion

last occasion Britain won an Olympic showjumping medal — but saw the individual gold medal slip from his grasp when his horse, Amanda, refused at a water ditch when in the lead in the final round.

Skelton, who suffered one of the biggest disappointments of his career at the Barcelona Olympics when his horse, Dollar Girl, was eliminated at the final fence, has a consistent performer in the 11-year-old Showtime. She won the Madrid Grand Prix in May and was runner-up in Lisbon and Cannes.

The horses will be flown out to the United States on Saturday, to acclimatise before the warm-up class on July 25. Robert Smith is the non-travelling reserve. The eight three-day event horses have already arrived in Atlanta.

OLYMPIC SHOWJUMPING TEAM: It's Otto (G Billington), Showtime (N Skelton), Weilham (J Whitaker), Two Step (M Whitaker), Non-travelling reserve: Onno (P Smith).

## CYCLING

## Roche peddling idea of taking Tour to Ireland

FROM ANDREW LONGMORE IN NOGENT-SUR-OISE

THE figure dispensing good cheer and common sense on the *Coeur de Lion* stand in the hospitality village yesterday morning looked boyishly familiar, though the cheeks were fuller and the dark hair greying at the edges. Children, businessmen, passers-by and aficionados queued to shake his hand, have a picture taken or a card signed. Stephen Roche is not forgotten in these parts and if his ambitious plans to bring the Tour to his homeland in 1998 come to fruition, Ireland will have further cause to thank one of their most popular sporting sons.

Roche's ride to victory in the Tour de France nine years ago is still talked about with awe, the middle leg of an extraordinary treble which began with a win in the Giro d'Italia and ended with the Irishman wearing the rainbow jersey of world champion. "It's like a dream," Roche said yesterday. "I watch the video sometimes and wonder whether that can possibly be me."

Since being forced to retire in 1993 with sore knee and a bad back, Roche has found no difficulty in letting go of his racing days. He commutes for Eurosport and, through his company, Proscor, helps to organise the promotional support for *Coeur de Lion*. He took his Tour-winning bike out of the shed last year for the first time in six months, found the tyres were flat, but rode it five miles to a friend's house to find a pump, wearing an old pair of Carrera bicycle shorts, an old sweater and a pair of tennis shoes.

"I hadn't ridden for a long time," Roche recalled. "Somehow, I always found an excuse for not going out — oh, look, there's a cloud over there, it might rain — and the less fit I got, the harder it became. But one evening, I just had to go out, right then, or I knew I might never get back on the bike again."

With the departure of both Roche and Sean Kelly, the Irish influence on the Tour has waned, but Jean-Marie Leblanc, the Tour director, remained a good friend and in a reflective moment after a recent Ireland v France rugby union match, Roche suggested Dublin as a venue for the start of the 1998 Tour. A formal proposal supported by Ireland's Minister for Tourism, was put to the Tour and will be considered within the next two months.

"It's just a question of keep-

ing the fires burning," Roche said. "We need financial backing from the Government before the Tour organisers will commit themselves. But it's now or never. It's no good saying we can have it in 20 years' time."

The cost of staging the Tour would run to as much as £2.5 million but the success of the two English stages in 1994 showed the French that both the organisation and the soul of the Tour would be safe across the water.

Roche admits that his interest in the Tour comes alive when the mountains are in sight. Yesterday, 24 hours after the eightieth anniversary of the Somme, 192 remaining riders rolled through the battlefields on the third stage, past the rows of white headstones lining the roadside cemeteries. The sense of history

## TOUR DETAILS

THIRD STAGE: 109km. Nogent-sur-Oise (109m) to Gien (161m). (Telekom 23min 21sec; 2. M Cipollini 9. Seacot 3; Moncassin 4. Gan; 5. Serradell 2; 6. R. O'Farrell 6; 7. F. Goss 7; 8. M. Cipollini 8; 9. C. Cipollini 9; 10. N. Mazzoni 10; 11. G. Goss 11; 12. A. Coenraet 11; 13. E. Maenner 13; 14. P. Festini 12; 15. T. Thome (Rouen, Lotot); 16. D. Abdeslam (Lyon, Reims); 17. A. Pichot 17; 18. J. Rebolledo 18; 19. J. L. Sanchez 19; 20. J. V. Rodriguez 20; 21. M. Cipollini 21; 22. 11. M. Cipollini (L. Sestini); 23. 12. J. Sestini; 24. 13. G. Goss; 25. 14. M. Goss; 26. 15. M. Goss; 27. 16. P. Sancilio; 28. 17. R. O'Farrell 17; 29. 18. J. Sestini (Den, TVM); 30. 19. T. Thome (Rouen); 31. 20. J. L. Sanchez 20; 32. 21. M. Goss; 33. 22. J. Sestini; 34. 23. 23. G. Goss; 35. 24. J. L. Sanchez 24; 36. 25. G. Goss; 37. 26. 27. T. Thome (Rouen); 38. 28. J. L. Sanchez 28; 39. 29. G. Goss; 40. 30. G. Goss; 41. 31. G. Goss; 42. 32. G. Goss; 43. 33. G. Goss; 44. 34. G. Goss; 45. 35. G. Goss; 46. 36. G. 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COMING SOON: TERRY VENABLES' EXCLUSIVE AND UNPREDICTABLE PECULIARITIES AND THE HIGHS AND LOWS OF THE EURO '96 CAMPAIGN



PAUL MCLEAN

# Managing the impossible job

BY TERRY VENABLES

In the second extract from his book, *The Best Game in the World*, Terry Venables analyses the qualities required to become a great manager

A crazy job, an almost impossible job, was the way Ron Greenwood described the manager's role in the modern English game long before Graham Taylor got round to the idea. It came as a bit of a shock, since I had not long been appointed a manager for the first time myself as successor to Malcolm Allison at Crystal Palace in 1976 and had just bumped into Ron at a summer fete to which I had taken my two young daughters. I listened hard because he was a wise man whose experience then spanned all the developments in football since the abolition of the maximum wage in 1961. When Ron Greenwood complained about the increasingly complex nature of the job, you paid attention.

There's a spiral of people in and around the club, he explained, and there in the centre of it all is you, the manager. First of all, you've got your own managerial and coaching staff, which you have to organise. Then there is the playing staff, but you are responsible not just for the first team, but the second and youth teams as well. To get a youth team, you have to attract young players, so that means talking to new boys and their parents. Then there are directors to deal with and transfers to conduct. You handle the players' contracts, too, and coach the first team, travel thousands of miles looking at players and deal with the media. What this boils down to is that you are responsible not only for the results of the first team — by which you are judged — but the building of the club.

The basic nature of the job hasn't changed much in the 20 years since Ron and I met. In most cases, it is still enormously demanding. If there has been a change it has been one of intensity. With the fierceness of competition increasing, the pressure on the football club manager has grown almost unbearable.

Yet the sheer impossibility of the job, I believe, is beginning to lead to a hiving-off of some of the manager's duties. Gradually, we are moving towards the continental

concept of a division of responsibility between the coach, whose only concern is the preparation of the team, and a general manager, who deals with all other administrative matters. That, I am convinced, is the right way to go.

So far as I'm concerned, the modern managerial era begins with men like Sir Matt Busby, Bill Nicholson, Bill Shankly and Ron Greenwood about 15 years after the war. That's when the game started

the gradual acceptance of the idea that the management of a club should be based on a division of responsibility. The relationship between chairman and manager is of vital importance, and its quality depends to a large extent on the personality of the chairman. If he, having put a lot of money into the club, demands a say in football matters, then there are bound to be problems. If, on the other hand, you are a Jack Walker and accept



## TENNIS

# Martin presents Henman with mountainous task

TODD MARTIN finished off Thomas Johansson neatly and quickly yesterday afternoon, hidden away at the edges of the All England Club on No 6 Court. The crowd that packed the small stand on one side and clustered on the lawn on the other searched for signs of frailty or vulnerability, anything that might suggest Tim Henman had a prayer in today's quarter-final. They found none. It was like watching a regicide warming up on a courtier.

Martin looked like a cross between The Terminator and the Marlboro Man out there on the fringe of Wimbledon — unsmiling, undemonstrative, utterly efficient and ruthless. Winners were greeted with the same expressionless response as his one glaring miss. Just once he raised his eyebrows, as he turned away after a questionable call, and once he stuck his tongue out in recognition of a piece of good fortune. But that was it.

It took him just 26 minutes to turn last night's two-set-to-one lead into victory. His double-handed backhands were flat and powerful, his serve thudding and deep and his volleys a delight. He won his final service game to love, sealing the match with a stooping volley that he dragged up off his feet and arrowed deep into the corner of the court, beyond Johansson's despairing reach.

There was polite applause from spectators who had suddenly realised the magnitude of Henman's task. In one corner, a small knot of Martin fans, including one man wearing a baseball cap that bore the enigmatic logo "American Pneumatic Tool", regrouped after their half-hour of pepperings the set with calls of "too good, Todd" and "played Todd". Standing in the narrow alley between courts, they complained that their man had not had a more prominent stage.



At Wimbledon

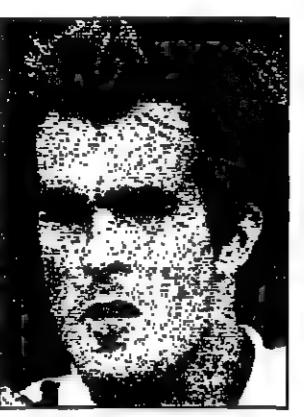
Today they should get their wish, even if their support may not be as easily heard. The patriotic fervour that has swept over Wimbledon is such that when two security guards waded through the group of autograph hunters surrounding the American at the end of his match, it seemed they might be about to clasp him in iron until tonight rather than lead him to the locker room.

Martin, who reached the semi-finals here two years ago after beating Andre Agassi in the quarters, was warned at the post-match press conference that he was likely to be the most hated man in tennis.

"I like my chances more than if I was in the same half as Sampras, Stich and Ivanovic," he said, "but there are four guys left in the bottom half of the draw who are all playing well and all trying to do the same thing. In this sport, you get opportunities presented to you every single week and I have not capitalised on them yet — but here, I think I am playing well at the right time."

I know what the atmosphere will be like, but I will just have to play it like any other match and block out the crowd and realise you are there to do a job. That court measures the same way as it would out in the sticks, anywhere else in any country and that is what is important.

"Tim has added a few pounds since I beat him at Queen's a couple of years ago and that has helped his weight of shot. His serve is better and he is moving much better and, most of all, his composure and his competitiveness are better. It is obvious that pretty much everything has improved. He wants to progress in the tournament and I have to do my job to make sure that does not happen. It feels like I'm playing Terrible Tim, but I don't think we should quite give him that name yet."



Martin: dominant

country today, but the words seemed to roll off his huge shoulders and over his 6ft 6in frame. "Let's just say I'm well aware of who I'm playing in the next round," he said.

Off the court, in fact, Martin is a courteous man with a dry sense of humour and a wry smile. He made no secret of the fact that he regarded the prospect of a match with Henman, even on his opponent's home soil, as preferable to a meeting with any of the glut of seeded players grouped in the top half of the draw. Far from being an ordeal, today's match is a golden opportunity. Martin is determined to seize it.



Radulescu, the Romanian-born German, returns serve on his way to a straight-sets win against Neville Godwin and a place in the quarter-finals

## Why we must resist the star chauvinists

**Simon Barnes glories in Wimbledon's year of the underdog as the unheralded Alex Radulescu emulates Tim Henman**

**T**here are people who say that Wimbledon is not good this year. After all, Agassi has gone and Boris has gone, far, far away. Courier's gone and Edberg has gone, with his balls and his rackets in the morning. Lousy Wimbledon: let's all go home.

Who agrees with such a diagnosis? Television people howl and gnash their teeth every time a big name goes out, ever fearful that their precious ratings will nosedive. Meanwhile, sponsors and advertisers gibber and tear their hair: how will they sell their disgusting brown toilet to the world if Andre and Boris are licking their wounds at home?

Do you like sport? Do you like tennis? If you do, have nothing to do with such

people. For consider: you have nothing in common with them. These people are not sports-lovers: they are Star Chauvinists. And this is one of the most pernicious diseases in sport.

So, set Star Chauvinism to one side, and join me on No 13 Court, for a round-of-16 match between Alex Radulescu — who he? — and the still more obscure Neville Godwin, a qualifier from South Africa. Radulescu won 6-3, 6-4, 6-4. True, it was a poorish match, but that is not the point.

If you want stars, go to the movies. Radulescu and Godwin got where they did by winning tennis matches. Godwin, with fast hands and feet and a quick mind, took Becker to a tie-break before the superstar's wrist forced Becker to retire tough, but that's sport for you. It's supposed to be like this.

Radulescu played 15 sets of tennis to reach the fourth round: if any one has earned the right to be there, he has. On his way, he served 91 aces, and added a further ten yesterday: the first player to reach his century this year.

He is a strapping chap, who



looks a bit like Peter Osgood, and in the same way, you wonder how so big a man, with such bad sideburns, could possess so fine a touch. For Radulescu can play as well as serve and, obviously, he can battle a bit. He plays Mallmai Washington in the next round and will meet Tim Henman in the semis if both survive. We'll hear more from him, if not this year, in future years.

Godwin was overpowered, as well as a qualifier, he had a right to be. His record this year was won, fought, lost: tonight this is the first tournament he has actually qualified for. Twitchy and sparky, he looked out of his depth yesterday, but he, too, could train on. Both men are but 21.

And so Radulescu and Godwin came to strut their stuff.

want the best: always, they want the biggest names. If you wish to sell to the uncommitted, you must sell out your heartland: this is the ineluctable rule of mass communications.

It is a wise sport, a wise event that resists the Star Chauvinism of its paymasters. Sport needs such delights as the Czech Republic sneaking through to the final, the disaster of Italy's defeat.

Sport needs its Agassiz. For a start, it keeps the Agassiz honest. And Radulescu is all right. He was born in Romania; before becoming a naturalized German, he took up the game because his father wanted a sparring partner. His service has improved steadily: the secret? "I'm throwing the ball up, and I'm hitting it," he said, with perfect seriousness.

He was happy just to get into the main draw at Wimbledon. "Every match since the first round is a bonus for me. I just go on to the court and have fun." Whether Radulescu will go on to be one of those players that inspires Star Chauvinism remains to be seen, but he has it in him to be a considerable grass court player. Heady times. Are you sleeping well, Alex? "I'm dreaming." A sport without its dreamers is no sport.

## Rosewall admires improving talent

BY ALIX RAMSAY

FORGET football, tennis is coming home. The tennis-watching public has had to endure considerably more than 30 years of hurt before pinning its hopes on Tim Henman. Now, in the media frenzy that has accompanied his success, the talk is not of whether he will reach the semi-finals, but when.

For these two weeks, Henman is a national hero. For the remaining 50 weeks of the year Britain tends to forget about tennis, save to knock the British performances when they go wrong. And when Henman returns next year, the spectators will no longer hope for his success, they will expect and demand it.

So how good is Henman? According to Ken Rosewall, four times a grand-slam champion, the answer is not bad at all. "I saw Tim play in Sydney and Melbourne and he has lifted his level of play quite considerably since then," he said.

The pressure of playing in your own country can affect some player's standard of play, but so far Tim has shown he can deal with that.

"He has a strong all-round game with no outstanding weaknesses. Watching him I think he might be a bit over-aggressive on some shots. He has the ability to be more consistent. I have seen him give away some points by going for the big shot.

"He has a good grass-court game and I think he has the game for all surfaces. In Australia we had our weaknesses on clay and that may be the case with Tim. But look at Sampras. On clay he has to work that much harder and in turn that has helped his grass-court game."

## RESULTS FROM THE ALL-ENGLAND CHAMPIONSHIPS

### Men's singles

Winner: £392,500  
Runner-up: £196,250  
Holder: P Sampras (Us)

### Fourth round:

P SAMPRAS (Us) bt C ROLAND (Fr) 6-4,  
6-4, 6-2  
R KRASJEK (Hol) bt M STICH (Ger) 6-4,  
7-6, 6-4  
G NOVOTNA (Cz) bt P RAFTER (Aus) 6-4,  
7-6, 6-1

J STOLBERG (Aus) bt J HASEK (Swe) 6-2,  
7-6, 6-2

T MARTIN (Us) bt J THOMAS (Swi) 6-4,  
6-3, 7-6, 6-2

M WILSON (Us) bt P HAASSEN (Hol) 6-3,  
6-4, 6-2

A RADULESCU (Ger) bt N GODWIN (Sa) 6-3,  
6-0, 6-4

and it was, indeed, a sponsor's nightmare. Sponsors want Boris and Andre on Centre Court. Never mind the tennis: the names alone are enough. Are we in the entertainment business, or what?

The other day, I watched the United States Olympic trials for track and field. The build-up for the 100 metres was all Carl Lewis. Big name, you see, so who cared about anyone else? Lewis was eighth out of eight, something that a casual look at his times would have told you was likely. But this is television, where is it not sport but Star Chauvinism that rules.

All this goes to make such matters as the Radulescu/Godwin encounter the very stuff of sport. A sport that is not in constant flux, constantly recruiting new blood to the higher ranks, constantly losing big names to time and ambition and disaster, has lost what makes it a sport.

Sponsors and television deal in numbers, the higher the better. There are only so many enthusiasts for any sport and so, to boost numbers, they must recruit from the margins. Therefore, they never

### Men's Over-45 doubles

Winners: £10,500  
Runners-up: £9,250

Holders: J D NEWCOMBE and A D ROCHE (Aus)

### First round

I NESTOR (Rom) and T SANCHEZ VICARIO (Sp) bt N A FRASER (Aus) and M SANTANA (Sp) 6-1,  
6-2

K R ROSEWALL and F S STYLIS (Aus) bt G BATTISON and M MUNRO (Aus) 6-3, 7-5

G MONTAGUE and A J STONE (Aus) bt J KOLECKA (Pol) and A MERWEVEL (Rus) 3-6, 6-3,  
6-4

P SICOLI and T SMID (Cz) bt A MAYER and G MAYER (Us) 6-3, 6-3

### Men's Over-45 singles

Winners: £10,500  
Runners-up: £9,250

Holders: J D NEWCOMBE and A D ROCHE (Aus)

### First round

I NESTOR (Rom) and T SANCHEZ VICARIO (Sp) bt N A FRASER (Aus) and M SANTANA (Sp) 6-1,  
6-2

K R ROSEWALL and F S STYLIS (Aus) bt G BATTISON and M MUNRO (Aus) 6-3, 7-5

G MONTAGUE and A J STONE (Aus) bt J KOLECKA (Pol) and A MERWEVEL (Rus) 3-6, 6-3,  
6-4

### Women's Over-35 doubles

Winners: £8,200  
Runners-up: £7,200

Holders: W M TUMBLER (Aus) and S VADDEVA (Us)

### First round

C J VAN RIBBURG (Ned) and I. GOLOKOVA (Cz) 6-1, 6-2

M SUKOVÁ and H WATANABE (Jpn) 6-1, 6-2

M DAWESWELL and C J MOTtram (GB) 6-1, 6-2

P. RICHARDSON and H. PLISTER (Us) bt T. G. GILLISON and L. SHIRAS (Us) 6-3, 6-1

P. SICOLI and T. SMID (Cz) bt A. MAYER and G. MAYER (Us) 6-3, 6-3

### Women's Over-35 singles

Winners: £8,200  
Runners-up: £7,200

Holders: J D NEWCOMBE and A D ROCHE (Aus)

### First round

I NESTOR (Rom) and T SANCHEZ VICARIO (Sp) 6-1,  
6-2

K R ROSEWALL and F S STYLIS (Aus) bt G BATTISON and M MUNRO (Aus) 6-3, 7-5

G MONTAGUE and A J STONE (Aus) bt J KOLECKA (Pol) and A MERWEVEL (Rus) 3-6, 6-3,  
6-4

### Women's Over-35 doubles

Winners: £8,200  
Runners-up: £7,200

Holders: J D NEWCOMBE and A D ROCHE (Aus)

### First round

I NESTOR (Rom) and T SANCHEZ VICARIO (Sp) 6-1,  
6-2

K R ROSEWALL and F S STYLIS (Aus) bt G BATTISON and M MUNRO (Aus) 6-3, 7-5

G MONTAGUE and A J STONE (Aus) bt J KOLECKA (Pol) and A MERWEVEL (Rus) 3-6, 6-3,  
6-4

### Men's doubles

Winners: £160,810

Runners-up: £90,400

Holders: T A WOODBRIDGE and M NEVRAILLOVA (Us)

### Second round

C J VAN RIBBURG (Ned) and I. GOLOKOVA (Cz) 6-1, 6-2

C SUKOVÁ and H WATANABE (Jpn) 6-1, 6-2

L B BATTISON and N ARNDT (Aus) bt J D NEWCOMBE and A D ROCHE (Aus) 6-3, 6-2

D. DRAPER and P. D. SMYTH (Aus) and S. GRAF (Ger) 6-3, 6-2

E. FERNERA (Spa) and J. SEMPERE (Esp) 6-1, 6-2

J. A. CONDE and A. CORTEZ (Spa) 7-5, 6-2

J. P. RICHARDSON and R. MCQUELLAN (Aus) bt N. BRISSON (Fr) 6-2, 6-2

D. MACPHERSON and R. T. KEMPSTER (Aus) and A. OLSSON (Swe) 6-2, 6-3

J. P. RICHARDSON and R. T. KEMPSTER (Aus) 6-2, 6-3

THE TIMES WEDNESDAY JULY 3 1996

## TENNIS: DUTCHMAN TAKES RESTRAINED VIEW OF SUCCESS

# Stich unravels as Krajicek ties up fourth-round win

By ALIX RAMSAY

**RICHARD KRAJICEK** had a point to make yesterday, and he is good at making points. He is famous for it at Wimbledon. In fact, his greatest moment, until yesterday, was informing the world that the women players were "lazy, fat pigs". Looking back, he rather wishes he had kept his mouth shut. No matter; he had other things on his mind yesterday, namely Michael Stich and a place in the Wimbledon quarter-finals. He won 6-4, 7-6, 6-4. Point taken.

Krajicek came into Wimbledon in the odd position of being No 17 seed. Overlooked by the seeding committee at first — he had lost in the first round here for the last two years — he was elevated at the eleventh hour when Thomas Muster withdrew through injury. "I was surprised by that in one way and in another I could understand it," he said. "I thought that if I was No 13 in the world and I had played a good French Open, I could expect to be seeded. I had been

playing well for the last five or six weeks. But I proved them wrong; not that it was my goal to do that."

That was a remarkably relaxed attitude from a chap known for a more dramatic view of life, but by then he had just dismantled Stich, the No 10 seed, in a little under two hours with a display of controlled ferocity. He served like a demon, raining aces down upon the former champion with no hint of remorse. Time after time he whipped returns past Stich with his supposedly weak backhand, and if forced into a rally — not that there were many — he took charge from the net.

There must have been something in the air on No 1 court as Stich did not usually take defeat easily but, despite a problem with a shoulder injury, he knew he had met his match yesterday. "I was not playing the way I wanted to," he said. "But I can accept the bit better than I used to think. Today I accept the good with the bad and I don't bear grudges any more."

Putting the matter of the seeding to one side, he is happy to be at Wimbledon and given that his next opponent is

Pete Sampras, he seems relaxed. "Pete has got a big serve and you have got to return well," he said. "If you get behind the ball sometimes it is easy to return, and I seemed to be picking them today."

It hardly seems the most aggressive of game plans. For Krajicek though, tennis is as much in the mind as on the court and he is pleased that for once at Wimbledon, he managed to concentrate from start to finish, never giving Stich the chance to get back into the match. "For sure it was one of my best matches, I had to stay focused and I stayed with it mentally."

Having disposed of one former champion, he is not thinking too much about tactics as he takes on the holder. "We both serve well, and I have just got to stay with it," he said. "When your opponent goes off for a couple of points then you have to take your chance. But tactics? The only tactic is to win the last point, you are doing pretty well." And Krajicek does like to make his point.



Stich, the Wimbledon champion five years ago, faces up to defeat by Krajicek

Jensen told that it is just not cricket

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

**LUKE** and Murphy Jensen, the brothers from the United States, were given a dressing-down last week for trying to play at Wimbledon wearing England football shirts. Luke received another sartorial sermon yesterday — but this time he won the day.

Luke arrived with Nicole Arendt, his playing partner in the mixed doubles, wearing an off-white cricket sweater and long trousers. The umpire said he could wear neither. The referee's office eventually intervened and allowed the match to go ahead, the Americans winning in two sets.

"The outfit is just consistent with our attitude of trying to broaden the boundaries of tennis," Luke's mother, Pat, said.

Steffi Graf dropped out of the mixed doubles event at Wimbledon last night because of an injury — to her coach, Heinz Günthardt. The former Swiss Davis Cup player was forced to withdraw because of a torn leg muscle. Graf and Günthardt had been the No 15 seeds for the event.

## BASEBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Atlanta 7 Montreal 2; San Francisco 9 Colorado 6; Philadelphia 6 New York 4; Pittsburgh 4; Chicago 1; Houston 6; Florida 5; St Louis 2; Los Angeles 2; San Diego 2.

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Baltimore 7 Toronto 4; Kansas City 4 Cleveland 2; Minnesota 12; Detroit 6; New York 2; Boston 2; Minnesota 10; Chicago 7; Texas 6; California 6; Oakland 8; Seattle 4.

## BASKETBALL

INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Australia 87 Italy 76 (Australia won series 5-0).

## BOWLS

BELFAST: Home International championships. UK team: Scotland 1 Wales 14; 2. Scotland 10; 3. Ireland 10; 4. Scotland 10; 5. Wales 10; 6. England 10; 7. Northern Ireland 10; 8. Scotland 10; 9. Northern Ireland 10; 10. Wales 10; 11. Scotland 10; 12. England 10; 13. Northern Ireland 10; 14. Wales 10; 15. Scotland 10; 16. Northern Ireland 10; 17. Scotland 10; 18. Northern Ireland 10; 19. Wales 10; 20. Scotland 10; 21. Northern Ireland 10; 22. Scotland 10; 23. Northern Ireland 10; 24. Wales 10; 25. Scotland 10; 26. Northern Ireland 10; 27. Wales 10; 28. Scotland 10; 29. Northern Ireland 10; 30. Scotland 10; 31. Northern Ireland 10; 32. Wales 10; 33. Scotland 10; 34. Northern Ireland 10; 35. Wales 10; 36. Scotland 10; 37. Northern Ireland 10; 38. Wales 10; 39. Scotland 10; 40. Northern Ireland 10; 41. Wales 10; 42. Scotland 10; 43. Northern Ireland 10; 44. Wales 10; 45. Scotland 10; 46. Northern Ireland 10; 47. Wales 10; 48. Scotland 10; 49. Northern Ireland 10; 50. Wales 10; 51. 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# Buffalo, chimpanzees and, of course, an elk

**A**n interesting moment in the second part of Larry McMurtry's *Buffalo Girls* last night (Channel 4). Beautiful saloon madam Dora (Melanie Griffith) has married out of spite, on hearing that her lover, Blue, has forsaken her. But Blue rides into town! What should she do? She flaps her hands at the window, while her maid rushes in. "Did you see him?" and "What shall we do?" they squeal. The maid has a suggestion. "Go tell your new husband he's gone leave town this instant and bring back a elk! Tell him not to come home till he's found one!" Two seconds later, when the husband wordlessly whips up his horses below their window and trundles his cart down Main Street, the two women dance with relief, with their bustles bouncing. Phew! it worked! You can never tell with "Go get a elk" whether it will lead to awkward questions.

As my colleague Matthew Bond warned us yesterday, *Buffalo Girls* was very bad indeed; but it was compelling. Personally, I am a sucker for any story that ends with the sentiment "We seen some glory days — you, me and old Jim — the likes of which we ain't never gonna see again". A tear forms instantly in my eye. But any emotional investment I made in *Buffalo Girls* was achieved by sheer strength of will. Compared with the big skies and grand canyons of *Lonesome Dove* (epic 1987 Larry McMurtry series), *Buffalo Girls* was a muddy creek with a bit of numbleness. Its monotonous climaxes seemed to be driven purely by the demands of American ad breaks. The characters were two-dimensional. The acting was flat. And in terms of plot "Go get a elk" was, alas, one of the more plausible moments.

It's not every day, for example, that you see Anjelica Huston in fringed buckskins stride across a

crescent in Bath while Big Ben chimes the hour in the background. The vertigo induced by this bizarre conjunction made me feel rather as if I'd been sent off to get a elk with no explanation. But the second part of *Buffalo Girls* was an attempt at a version of *Stella Dallas* — year-old mother watching her now-privileged child without revealing her identity — and for that Calamity Jane must walk London streets, and shoot pistols in a pub. Weirdly, the Victorian extras had been instructed to act normally when exotic Wild West costumes mingled with their clerical black, so they peered into cardboard jewelers' windows and took no notice — choreographed neatly in pairs, as if about to sing a song.

Torn as she was between her maternal love and her habit of sleeping in paper snow on the Rockies with unfunny old-

## REVIEW



Lynne  
Truss

timers, Huston's Calamity Jane presented a rather tiring paradigm of modern woman. Sometimes she jutted her chin as a sign of starchiness; other times, she looked up at the camera with big wet eyes, to indicate womanly emotion. And sometimes, when confused between her two gender roles, she socked somebody on the jaw.

This hormonal upsy-downsy

was a bit insulting, to tell you the truth, but luckily, the new documentary series *Law Women* on BBC1 told a similar story much better. Susan Hill is a Detective Inspector in Hounslow who combines home-making and demanding career, and does it with no problem whatsoever. Hoorah. In between organising her staff to investigate a rape allegation, she goes to her new baby and buys teeny hats in Mothercare; she arrests a man, interrogates him, and then joins an aerobics class. Despite the continual thud of air craft overhead, Hounslow suddenly looks an attractive place to live. DJ Hill takes flowers to the rape victim's house. She is a marvel.

Lynda La Plante will not be buying DJ Hill's story, I suspect. Not enough conflict in it. But her story made short work of 50 minutes, perhaps because such competence is a joy to watch. Her only mistake, I thought, was to play

"I'm coming to get you!" with her small children in the garden — surely a bit menacing for the little ones, when mummy not only has power of arrest, but close professional contact with the Crown Prosecution Service.

**E**arlier in the evening, *Dawn to Dusk* (BBC1) took Jonathan Scott to Gombe in Tanzania, to meet some chimpanzees. I say "Jonathan Scott" in this airy manner, without qualification, because that's how he appeared on screen, but I admit he was a stranger to me. The viewer's goodwill is regularly stretched in this way, as if we are party hosts cheerfully losing control. Now here's Dale Winton says an announcement, and we are instantly expected to say "Oh all right, hello Dale, come in, how are you, do you know everybody?"

The idea of *Dawn to Dusk* is that Scott pops into the jungle for a day and watches some animals getting on with their everyday lives — the washing up and ironing, that sort of thing. Last night the chimps of the Gombe were wonderfully obliging — they are termites, picked ticks off each other, and even staged an impromptu skirmish. "What terrific good fortune!" Scott kept saying, which made me all the more suspicious of this ostensibly pot-luck project. All those camera angles were never done in a single day, I just didn't believe it.

However, the concept of *Dawn to Dusk* certainly makes a change from those annual cycles packed with selected drama, struggling baby animals and time-lapse rainstorms, all narrated by Ian Holm. If any of the next five films genuinely shows dull hours of lions flicking their ears in white grass, doing nothing except yawn, dream and defecate, I will personally go out to get a elk, and not come back till I've found one.

7.00pm	
2.00am Business Breakfast (94880)	
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (Ceefax) (55338)	
9.00 Breakfast News Extra (Ceefax) (3000154)	
9.20 Prue Leith's Tricks of the Trade. The best method of cooking fish to prevent loss of moisture and flavour (n) (452523)	
9.30 <i>The Natural World: Search for the Yeti</i> narrated by Andrew Sachs (f) (Ceefax) (e) (6748241)	
10.20 FILM: <i>What a Carve Up!</i> (1962, b/w) with Kenneth Connor and Sidney James. A farce about members of a family who gather at a haunted house for the reading of will. Directed by Pat Jackson (2213951)	
12.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (2881067)	
12.05pm <i>Going for Gold</i> with Henry Kelly (e) (7711067)	
12.30 For the Love of it: A Countryman's Story (36647118)	
12.35 Neighbours (Ceefax) (s) (9365203)	
1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (53425)	
1.30 Regional News and weather (12883203)	
1.40 Wimbledon 96. Desmond Lynam introduces live action from this afternoon's men's singles quarter-finals (s) (94109319)	
1.55 Neighbours (Ceefax) (s) (211203)	
6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (13)	
6.30 Regional news magazines (83)	
7.00 Small Talk. Ronnie Corbett hosts the show in which grown-ups must unravel the minds of nine children and discover who knows best (Ceefax) (s) (9118)	
7.30 Mastermind from Norwich Cathedral. Magnus Magnusson puts four more contenders in the spotlight, with questions on the Gospels, the Charter movement, the Canadian writer Elizabeth Smart and Collett (Ceefax) (s) (67)	
8.00 FILM: <i>Batman</i> (1989) starring Michael Keaton, Jack Nicholson, Kim Basinger and Robert Wuhl. Tim Burton's dark, brooding meditation on the caped crusader of Gotham City is a far cry from camp television series. "The bat" is being haunted by the violent death of his parents at the hands of a young punk who would grow up to become the Joker. Directed by Tim Burton (Ceefax) (s) (8118) Continues after the news	
8.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax) regional news and weather (8609)	
9.30 FILM: <i>Batman</i> . Concluded (77116)	
10.30 Today at Wimbledon. Sue Barker introduces highlights of the men's quarter-finals from the All England Club (Ceefax) (s) (7838965)	
11.35 FILM: <i>A Thousand Heroes</i> (1991) with Charlton Heston, Richard Thomas and James Coburn. When the engines of a DC10 blow out on a routine flight to Chicago, the pilot must try to land the plane. Meanwhile, the local authorities squabble over the best way to deal with the impending catastrophe. Directed by Lamont Johnson (294406)	
1.05am Weather (1163365)	

7.30pm	
6.00am Open University: <i>Conics</i> (5463267)	
6.25 A School of Games (5442574) 6.50 Religion and Society in Victorian Bristol (897783)	
7.15 See Hear Breakfast News (4525222)	
7.30 Smurfs' Adventures (5674970)	
7.55 Actix-3 (5404609) (f) (Ceefax)	
8.20 Mr Barn (f) (5334959)	
8.35 The Record (5712222)	
9.00 Yesterday at Wimbledon. Highlights of the ladies' quarter-finals (498959)	
10.00 Playdays (f) (603203) 10.25 <i>The Addams Family</i> (b/w) (f) (5598593) 10.50 <i>The Fugitive</i> (b/w) (f) (554007)	
11.45 Melvin and Maureen's Muscle-Grams (f) (1965591) 12.00 <i>The Natural World</i> (f) (237774)	
12.30pm Year of the Pfer: Cromer (51048) 1.00 Cromer 96. Desmond Lynam and Sue Barker present live coverage of the men's singles quarter-finals (73010672)	
2.55 News (Ceefax) regional news and weather (231116)	
4.00 Cartoon (7967154) 4.05 Casper Classics (7957777) 4.15 Jonny Briggs (4278574)	
4.30 <b>Cartoon Critics</b> . The show which goes behind the scenes to reveal the truth about animations, cartoons and real wildlife (50)	
5.00 Newsworld (Ceefax) (9244319)	
5.10 Earthstars. Drama series about two schoolfriends caught up in the mystery of an Arthurian legend (f) (Ceefax) (s) (7603575)	
5.35 Wimbledon 96. Continued live coverage of the men's singles quarter-finalists, introduced by Desmond Lynam and Sue Barker (76118222)	
6.30 International Athletics. Coverage of the Lausanne Grand Prix, including the 400m hurdles clash between Olympic champion Steve Cram and the woman who took her world record, Kim Batten. Introduced by Helen Rollason and Brendan Foster (63338)	
7.30 <b>Cartoon Critics</b> . The show which goes behind the scenes to reveal the truth about animations, cartoons and real wildlife (50)	
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10.30 <b>Building Sights: Willis Corroon</b> . Architect Zaha Hadid chooses to look at the Willis Corroon building in Ipswich, by Sir Norman Foster (Ceefax) (984390)	
10.30 <b>Newswight</b> (Ceefax) (385823)	
11.15 <b>Murder One: Chapter Eighteen</b> . Legal drama following a high-profile murder case both in and out of the courtroom. The prosecution offers to cut a deal. Appleton's secret business dealings with Cross jeopardise her job (f) (Ceefax) (s) (476883)	
12.05am <b>The Midnight Hour</b> with Andrew Neil. Political chat show (9488471)	
12.30am-6.00 Learning Zone	

**VideoPlus+** and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to record your video recorder instead with a VideoPlus+ handset. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. VideoPlus+ ("+"), PlusCode ("") and Video Programmer are trademarks of Gemstar Development Ltd.



Field Marshal Haig (9.30pm)

9.30pm	
Timewatch: Haig — the Unknown Soldier (788680)	
10.20 Building Sights: Willis Corroon. Architect Zaha Hadid chooses to look at the Willis Corroon building in Ipswich, by Sir Norman Foster (Ceefax) (984390)	
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**SKY NEWS**

News on the hour

6.30am *Destinations* (60512) 10.30 ABC Nightline (76241) 1.30pm CBS News This Morning (44068) 2.00pm *Press Your Luck* (1140380) 2.20 Love Connection (201452) 9.45 *Open Window* (11716) 10.40 *Jeopardy* (569320) 11.10 *Sally Jessy Raphael* (161364) 12.00 *Match Game* (12024) 12.30 *Family Feud* (12024) 1.00 *Wheel of Fortune* (1967) (494958) 1.20 *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?* (1995) (518219) 1.30 *Quiz Show* (1995) (518219) 1.45 *That's Life* (1994) (518224) 1.55 *Disappearance of Veronica* (1994) (521618) 2.10 *Children First* (1993) (562917) 2.30 *Shark! Holmes! Sign of Four* (1993) (723765)

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10.40 *Jeopardy* (569320) 11.10 *Sally*

*Jessy Raphael* (161364) 12.00 *Match*

*Game* (12024) 12.30 *Family*

*Feud* (1967) (494958) 1.00 *Wheel*

*of Fortune* (1995) (518219) 1.20 *Who*

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**SKY MOVIES**

5.00pm *Room Service* (1989) (569404)

5.20am *Eliza* (1991) (518722) 6.20 *Easy Living* (1989) (518135) 10.00 *Someday Else's Child* (1994) (518388) 12.00 *Walk Like a Man* (1976) (79076) 2.00pm *The Butter Cream Gang* (1992) (3135) 4.00 *Walk Like a Man* (1976) (79076) 2.00pm *Attack of the Duckies* (1991) (518707) 3.00 *Attack of the Duckies* (1991) (518707) 3.20 *Attack of the Duckies* (1991) (518707) 3.40 *Attack of the Duckies* (1991) (518707) 3.50 *Attack of the Duckies* (1991) (518707) 3.55 *Attack of the Duckies* (1991) (518707) 3.58 *Attack of the Duckies* (1991) (518707) 3.60 *Attack of the Duckies* (1991) (518707) 3.62 *Attack of the Duckies* (1991) (518707) 3.64 *Attack of the Duckies* (1991) (518707) 3.66 *Attack of the Duckies* (1991

## SPORT

WEDNESDAY JULY 3 1996

## Big time beckons as Henman courts centre stage



By DAVID MILLER

WISEACRES say he has, as yet, only beaten a couple of clay-court players and two Britons. There is not euphoria all down the line for Tim Henman, who today plays for a place in the men's singles semi-finals at Wimbledon.

Yet he has some sound judges on his side, optimistic about his potential for the big time. Among them is Tony Roche, one of the great left-handers, a superb volleyer and doubles player who lost the 1968 Wimbledon final to Rod Laver after winning the French and Italian titles in 1966.

Roche was a tough Australian grifter and knows the essential ingredient of hard work. "Henman has to continue with the work on his game over the past 12 months,"

Roche said. "He has to improve his service still further, but what is encouraging is that he now believes he can be a top player."

This belief shone through his straight-set victory over Magnus Gustafsson, the Swede who is ranked No 37 in the world, in Monday's last 16. Everyone around the Centre Court was aware that Henman, at 21 the same age as Fred Perry when he reached his first Wimbledon quarter-final, never considered the possibility of losing for a moment.

It was particularly significant that, when serving for the match at 6-5 in the third set and having trouble with his first service, he deliberately went for the big second serve. It did not work and he lost the game, but he had refused to play safe.

As impressive as his temperament in moments of crisis was Henman's range of volleys and ground strokes. Some

of his drives from the baseline, down both flanks, left Gustafsson stranded, while his volleys were consistently deep and pinching the transverse. He has, too, a touch for mid-court half-volleys, shot that, for example, has always eluded Boris Becker.

Ian Peacock, the chief executive of the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA), whose £3 million-a-year training programme for juniors and seniors at last seems to be showing reward, emphasised the importance of the mental side of Henman's play. "Most of the better young players can hit the ball well, but it's attitude [that separates them]," he said. "If you add up the points in any match, mostly both players have won about the same, but it's when and where they win them that counts."

## ON COURT

Tim Henman (GB) v Todd Martin (US) (unseeded)

Second on Centre Court, after Sampras v Kasten (see page 10).

WORLD RANKINGS

Henman 54, Martin 18

TELEVISION: BBC1: 1.40-5.35pm; 10.30-11.35pm (highlights); BBC2: 1.03-5.55pm; 5.35-6.30pm

spent four years working out-of-school — Reed's, in Surrey — at David Lloyd's centre at Raynes Park. The making of a potential top-ten player is a lengthy, diligent process.

This is Henman's sixth grand-slam event — it was, coincidentally, Gustafsson's 24th — and he had never previously been past the second round. The last British player to reach a quarter-final stage was John Lloyd in the Australian Open in 1985, in which he then lost to Ivan Lendl.

Henman's grandfather, Henry Billington, reached Wimbledon's third round three times, but he died before his grandson was old enough to absorb any reminiscences or advice. "I don't have many memories of him at all," Henman admitted.

Prior to that Henman had

and the pressure, which his success has generated. This, too, is the mark of a player who might go far, one who is not frightened but motivated by the prospect of fame. The cheering strengthens his resolve.

"It's a great atmosphere to play in [the Centre Court]" Henman reflected. "I don't think any of you can really understand it until you're out there on the court, with everyone cheering you on every time you hit a winner. It's very, very enjoyable. I hope that it continues... for the rest of my career."

It makes life more difficult, he said, for his opponents to know that they are playing against 15,000 people. Yesterday, Henman was studying Todd Martin, who will be confronted by all those people this afternoon.

KEVIN LAMARQUE

Japanese meets Graf in last four

## Date's sun rises to illuminate semi-final spot

By DAVID MILLER

THE drama on Centre Court yesterday was so muted, in the women's singles quarter-finals, that you could have heard a sigh drop. History was made, nonetheless, Kimiko Date, from Tokyo, becoming the first Japanese semi-finalist at the Wimbledon championships since Jiro Saito in the men's singles and doubles in 1933. Date defeated Mary Pierce 6-3, 6-1.

Earlier Steffi Graf, in pursuit of her twentieth grand-slam title, had casually brushed aside Jana Novotna, her 25th win against the Czech. Novotna, the sixth seed, failed to come remotely near her challenge in the final of 1993, capitulating in the second set to lose 6-3, 6-2. Graf had had more trouble cracking a boiled egg.

In her semi-final tomorrow, Graf will meet Date, whose only victory in seven meetings was in three sets in the Fed Cup this year on a synthetic surface. The other semi-final will be between Arantxa Sánchez Vicario, the memorable losing finalist to Graf last year, and Meredith McGrath, a 25-year-old American living in Switzerland and ranked No 27. She has lost their two previous meetings, including one this year.

Although Monica Seles, less than fit, and Conchita Martínez, the respective second and third seeds, had fallen in previous rounds, the women's tournament has been short of serious threats for the prominent seeds. Yesterday, only Date dropped a set. Though Wimbledon, of all tournaments,

retains a faithful following for the women's game, and down the years has thrilled to great champions from Brough, Bueno, and Connolly, through Court and King to Evert, Navratilova and Graf, the general lack of female athleticism means lack of surprises.

Pierce, the Australian Open champion last year, is the one player — other than Martina Hingis in due time — who could blow the present establishment apart. At 21, she has a physique, the serve, the volleys, the ground strokes. Sadly for her and the public, and fortunately for her opponents, she seldom manages more than 30 seconds of continuous concentration.

Although she was seeded No 13 and Date No 12, Pierce could and should have swept aside the SR 4in Japanese in straight sets. As so often her game fell apart, this time at 3-4 down in the second set after which she took only one more game. Her later comment that "I was really close to winning" was self-delusion.

To the multitude of dress and hair adjustments that Pierce persistently makes on court, she has added another: knicker adjustment. Yesterday she wore, beneath a white shift dress so tight around the bodice that the buttons were all but popping, a brief pair of lycra cycle pants. Repeatedly, she was having either to hitch up the waist or grope beneath her skirt to pull down the legs. Inelegant, not to say uncomfortable and distracting.

Additionally, she was seemingly constantly troubled by something in one or other eye, regularly pausing between points and causing Date to wait.

With Pierce serving at 3-4 in the second set and looking

listless, Date hit three passing shots, took the game and then herself survived three break points to clinch her second set point on Pierce's error. Pierce had nothing left.

The measure of Novotna's

defeat is that an erratic Graf did not play that well.

Novotna's return of service, when not over the baseline, were meat for Graf's second shot. Graf moved to 4-1 in the first set on

a game of five deuces in which she hit seven unforced errors. Novotna increasingly fretted, glancing anxiously at Hana Mandliková, her coach and friend, sitting in the players' box. There was nothing either could do. "It was a lot easier than I expected," Graf said.

McGrath, 25, a former US Open mixed doubles champion, comfortably defeated Mary Joe Fernandez, the ninth seed, 6-3, 6-1 for an unexpected victory in her first year beyond the fourth round. "I stopped shaking five minutes ago," McGrath said afterwards.

Sánchez Vicario was untroubled in beating Judith Wiesner, the 30-year-old Austrian, 6-4, 6-0.

## Taylor's tribute to heir apparent

Alix Ramsay meets the last British player to reach the men's singles quarter-finals

handled the pressure very well. He has handled the media well too. He thinks he can go all the way and that's important.

Looking at the match as dispassionately as possible, despite the euphoria that surrounds Henman, Taylor still believes he can win. "Martin is very good, but his reputation isn't one that would

scare you," he said. "It's not as if he's a three-times champion. Tim has bottle, but more importantly he has self-belief. Nobody gave me a chance when I played Rod Laver in 1970. All the players laughed at me when they saw the draw, but I believed in myself just like Tim.

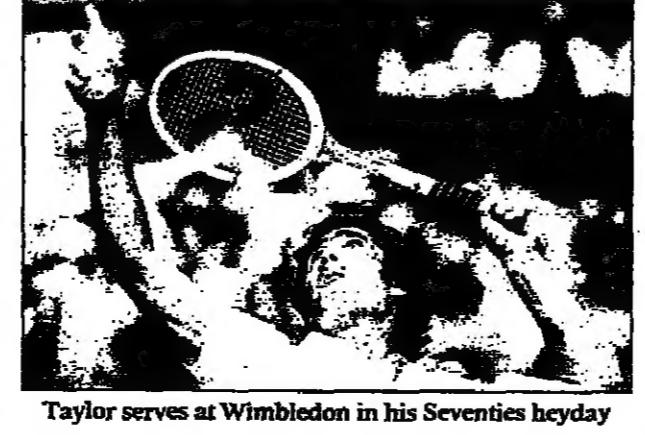
"He's a very well balanced person and he won't be affected

by the hype. He'll feed it all into his game plan. And if he beats Martin it won't change his life. Beating Borg certainly didn't change mine. Even if he wins, he still has two matches to go."

In the dim and distant days of Taylor's victory he won £1,000. Henman has already made a fraction over £51,000 and should be win today, he is guaranteed at least £98,125. Taylor does not begrudge him a penny, or a headline. "The money wasn't much in those days, but if he helped to pay the bills, I suppose," he said. "But you don't play Wimbledon for the money, you play it for the respect of your peers. He'll be more happy with the way he has played."

Taylor will be on court today, and he feels confident. "He won't be affected by the enthusiasm of the crowd. If you need proof of his temperament, you just have to look at the way he dealt with the Gustafsson match," he said.

"Four times they went off for rain and he came back to win. This country is looking for a winner and this is his great chance. Wimbledon puts a big stamp on your reputation."



Taylor serves at Wimbledon in his Seventies heyday

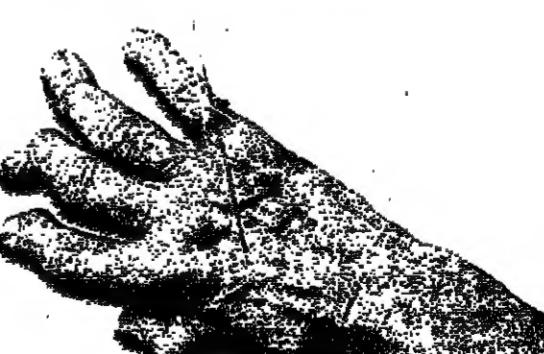
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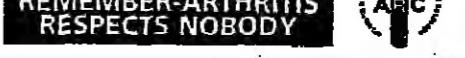
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## RACING 47

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